
PART III:

MKUKUTA CLUSTER III

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY

Broadly defined, governance relates to the manner in which public affairs are regulated and conducted to manage resources, deliver essential services, and protect the rights and well-being of all Tanzanians.

Many VoP findings provide valuable data on progress towards achieving MKUKUTA's goals of good governance and increased accountability, including: the participation of citizens in public affairs; perceptions of efforts to improve accountability of government officials; access to information and media; popular knowledge and opinions on politics and policies; perceptions of corruption; and community beliefs about trust, cooperation and security within Tanzanian society.

13.1 Participation in Public Affairs

Participation in public affairs was measured by two major variables; participation in religion and public affairs, and membership of various organisations. Almost all adult respondents expressed an interest in religion, 93%, and 66% expressed an interest in politics as well as reading and sport, 60%.

Respondents were asked about their current or past membership of various formal and informal organisations (Table 13.1). Half the sample said they had been or were currently members of political parties (*kuwa mwanachama wa chama cha siasa*). The high level of political party membership is a reflection of the keen interest in politics mentioned above. About a fifth, 19%, of respondents said they were members of burial societies, or were traditional security guards *sungusungu*. Around a tenth, 13%, claimed to be or to have been members of a choir, dance or cultural group, or an informal saving and credit association *upatu*.

Less than 10% had been a member of a school or water management committee, a community-based organisation, a cooperative society, farmers' association or economic group, or served as a village chairman/woman, a ward or district councillor. With the exception of membership of an informal savings or credit society, rural respondents were more likely than their urban counterparts to belong to the various associations listed.

Membership in Organisations (formerly and/or currently)	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Political party	44	57	50	49
Burial society	17	22	19	19
Traditional security guard (<i>sungusungu</i>)	12	20	21	18
Informal saving and credit group	15	15	11	13
Choir, dance or cultural group	11	15	14	13
Primary school committee	5	9	10	9
Community-based organisation	7	10	7	8
Cooperative/farmers' association/economic group	2	4	7	5
Water Management Committee	2	5	6	5
Village Chair, Ward/District Councillor	2	3	5	4

Within the context of participation, respondents were asked whether they had ever been involved in a variety of civic activities as listed in Table 13.2. In general, participation in public affairs is low. Just over a fifth, 22%, of rural respondents said that they had participated in a local-level planning exercise,

and about 16% had worked on public works projects, typically road building and maintenance. Fewer urban respondents reported having participated in such civic activities.

Table 13.2 Types of Public Participation

Type of Public Participation	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Participated in preparing a village/ward plan	7	18	22	18
Worked on a public works project	6	13	16	13
Attended a civic education programme	10	11	12	11
Attended a full local council meeting	9	10	9	9

Respondents were also asked whether during the previous year they had requested any information related to state provided services at the district, ward, or village or *mtaa* levels and whether they had received information as a result. Most respondents had not requested information from public officials at these levels. Table 13.3 also shows that rural residents are more likely to ask for information, with 20% of respondents requesting information at the village/*mtaa* level. 14% of rural respondents received the information they asked for, while 6% asked for, but did not receive it.

Table 13.3 Requests for Public Information

Information Requested From:	Dar es Salaam %		Other Urban %		Rural Areas %		All %		
	Rec'd	Not Rec'd	Rec'd	Not Rec'd	Rec'd	Not Rec'd	Rec'd	Not Rec'd	Total Asked
District	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	3	7
Ward	8	6	8	6	8	5	8	5	13
Village/ <i>Mtaa</i>	6	4	8	5	14	6	10	5	15

Key: Rec'd = Received information requested Not Rec'd = Did not receive information requested

Respondents were asked a number of questions concerning their participation in local-level decision-making, which official policy formally promotes. Table 13.4 reports on people's feelings about the utility of public engagement in policy and development issues. In all research sites, a small majority of respondents thought that citizens publicly expressing their views make a difference, while 39% thought that government officials do not listen to what people say.

Table 13.4 Perceptions on Whether Participation Makes a Difference

Perception on Whether it is Useful For People to Attend Public Meetings that Discuss Local Development Issues	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
A. People like me make a difference by publicly expressing our views on local issues that affect us	52	54	53	53
B. Even if people like me express opinions on such issues, government officials do not listen to what we say	39	38	39	39
Don't know/no response	9	8	9	9

Note: Respondents were asked to choose between statements A and B.

A related question probed respondents' feelings about the extent to which citizens should be involved in public affairs (Table 13.5). The majority, 65%, of respondents thought that ordinary people should be more involved in decision making concerning basic economic and social development issues that affect their lives. At the same time, just over one quarter, 27%, were of the opinion that despite citizens' involvement, it is the government's responsibility to provide good services and that there is not much that ordinary people can do to improve the government's performance.

Table 13.5 Perceptions on Whether People Should Be More Involved in Decision Making about Public Affairs

Perceptions on Whether People Should Participate in Public Affairs	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
A. Ordinary people should be more involved in decision-making concerning basic economic and social development issues that affect their lives	65	64	66	65
B. It is the government's responsibility to provide good services: there is not much that ordinary people can do to improve the government's performance	27	30	27	27
Don't know/no response	9	7	7	8

Thus, across research sites, adult Tanzanians were much more likely to endorse the formal virtues of public pressure compared to just letting officials 'get on with the job'. Most Tanzanians consider participation in decision-making a civic virtue, but are rather more sceptical about whether government officials are willing to listen to them.

13.2 Information and Communication

As has been shown above, most adult Tanzanians are interested in politics and public affairs, a majority believes that public voice makes a difference to state performance and service provision, and even more think that ordinary people should be involved in monitoring the performance of state actors. A detailed examination of how adults gain access to information for informed participation is provided in this section.

Adults sampled were asked about their most important sources of information about public affairs (Table 13.6). The radio constituted the most important source of information across the country at 60%, slightly more so in urban than in rural areas. Newspapers and television are much more important sources of information in Dar es Salaam than in the rest of the country. 'Word of mouth' is an important source of information for 21% of Tanzanians, in both urban and rural areas. Overall, Dar es Salaam citizens have much greater access to information than others.

Table 13.6 Sources of Information by Locality

Important Source of Information on Politics, Sports and International Affairs	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Radio	67	63	56	60
Word of mouth	19	22	22	21
Newspapers	44	24	7	20
Television	43	20	5	18
Public meetings	7	13	15	12
Church/Mosque	8	11	5	7
NGOs/CBOs	3	3	2	2

Adults were also asked about how often they access information available from the main media sources. Table 13.7 shows that the majority of adult Tanzanians listen to the radio frequently. In Dar es Salaam where newspapers and television are much more easily accessible than elsewhere, 43% of these respondents also said they watch television frequently and 44% said they read newspapers frequently. The growing importance of the mobile phone as a means of communication and source of information is demonstrated, with 35% of adult respondents owned mobile phones: 65% in Dar es Salaam and 16% in rural areas.

Table 13.7 Accessing Information Frequently

Accessing Media Frequently	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Listen to the radio	61	58	52	56
Watch television	40	17	5	17
Read a newspaper	36	21	6	17

The survey of primary school children highlighted another important aspect of information sharing - that of listening. From the research with young primary school children, it is clear that 'institutionalised' listening to children is weak. The overwhelming impression of teachers is that their model of education is teacher not learner centred: their job is to explain well, so that a body of knowledge is understood rather than to facilitate children in a more open ended approach to understanding the world they live in.

Only one school in the sample of ten primary schools had an active school council - a *baraza*. In the rare cases where pupils were represented in school committees, the pupils' perception is that they are not seriously listened to. Where they are not directly represented, pupils tended not to know about when meetings were held and what was discussed.

13.3 Knowledge and Opinions on Policies

Opinions on selected policy issues were surveyed to assess how well informed people were of recent policy debates and whether they follow up on these.

Knowledge of MKUKUTA

Nationally, only about two respondents in five, 38%, said that they had heard of MKUKUTA, and only 34% of rural respondents. Most of those who said they had heard of MKUKUTA thought that it was concerned exclusively with job creation and economic growth; less than 10% could identify MKUKUTA's three clusters which had been presented in a multiple choice format.

Before inviting respondents' opinions on specific policy issues, the questionnaire asked whether they

Table 13.8 Knowledge of MKUKUTA

Heard of MKUKUTA	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Yes	40	44	34	38
No	60	56	66	62

had opinions about government policies and performance. Over two-thirds said they did; about 34% (one-third) answered in the negative, more women than men.

Topical Issues

Respondents were asked about whether mining companies were paying enough taxes, what caused the power crisis of 2006, the pros and cons of relocating *machingas* (street traders) away from city centres and about foreign aid. About half of the sample of adults had no opinions on these issues. Of the respondents offering opinions, almost all - 96%, were convinced that mining companies should pay more taxes. Opinions were divided on the *machinga* issue - 58% were supportive of the action, whereas 34% were critical of the government's action. Almost three quarters, 74%, believe the electricity crisis was caused by drought. Four out of five, 81%, believe that 'foreign aid mostly benefits government officials', and nearly two-thirds, 64%, of respondents with an opinion strongly agreed with this view.

13.4 Opinions on Government: Officials and Political Parties

Performance of Governmental Representatives

A number of questions were also asked to assess public opinion on the performance of politicians and government officials in the past few years. A majority of adult respondents offered favourable opinions on the performance of the top leadership, most senior officials and members of parliament. Over 40% of respondents also saw improvements in the performance of local government officials, councillors and village government, and the police.

Multi-Party System

Lastly, the survey asked respondents how they viewed the competitive political system which was introduced in 1992. Respondents are split almost equally between single and multi-party system options.

Opinions on the Political System	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
I am glad Tanzania became a multi-party system	46	47	44	45
I wish Tanzania had remained a one party state	37	40	42	41
Single party/multi-party system makes little difference	8	7	6	7
No opinion/undecided	9	7	7	7

13.5 Accountability

The survey looked into whether Tanzanians considered that progress was being made in making government officials more accountable. To start, adult respondents were asked to think of anything that had happened in the last three years involving central government or local government officials that suggested to them that services and accountability were improving. About 34% of respondents replied in the affirmative, with little variation between urban and rural areas. An open-ended follow-up requested details regarding these improvements.

By far, the most commonly reported improvement, by 56% of those who said they had noted any improvement, was in education - improved schools, teacher housing, classrooms.

Questions were asked about leaders' accountability. About 32% of respondents said there were examples of officials being accused of misusing public money and of officials being dismissed for poor performance and corruption. A further 24% cited examples of road improvements resulting from public complaints.

Evidence of Accountability	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
People accused officials of misusing resources intended for a development activity or social service	30	35	33	32
A government official was dismissed for poor performance or corruption	32	34	31	32
Complaints about the condition of the roads led to rapid repairs	25	28	22	24
Spending reported by government officials was challenged in a public meeting	19	27	30	26
Someone made reference in a public meeting to information posted in a local government office or service point	11	12	13	12

The survey also asked adults a number of questions about recent changes they had noted in the

accountability of public officials and means towards enhancing accountability. Respondents were positive in their assessment of recent trends, especially in government response to peace, order and security concerns and the quality of public services, with many more noting improvements than had seen deterioration. At the same time, 44% of the adults offered no opinion on these questions.

Table 13.11 Trends in Accountability

Trends in Accountability	Dar es Salaam %		Other Urban %		Rural Areas %		All %	
	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec
Public order, peace and security	53	4	57	4	54	5	55	4
Quality of basic services	46	4	48	9	42	12	44	9
Respect for the law by government	36	6	43	5	41	6	40	6
Regulating the economy effectively	32	5	40	6	37	8	36	7
Government's tolerance of criticism	37	7	39	11	34	10	35	9
Newspapers investigating corruption	35	6	31	10	20	11	25	9
Senior politicians and officials held to account	33	6	36	8	30	8	32	8
Performance of Prevention of Corruption Bureau	32	7	35	9	30	9	31	8
Opposition parties' impact in parliament	31	10	27	18	24	19	27	16
Fair/equitable taxation	16	6	18	10	18	10	17	8

Note: Inc = Increase Dec = Decrease

13.6 Corruption

Corruption is often seen as the major factor undermining good governance. The perception that official corruption is widespread undermines public confidence in state institutions and service providers. This section reviews Tanzanians' perceptions concerning the pervasiveness of corruption.

Prevalence of Corruption

About 40% of the adult respondents offered no opinion about the extent of corruption. Of those who did offer an opinion, similar percentages perceive petty corruption to be 'very common' or 'quite common' - 44% of the respondents, or 24% of the total adult sample. Grand corruption was perceived to be 'very common' or 'quite common' by about 41% of those who responded, this would equate to 25% of the total adult sample. Similar results are recorded for political corruption, 40% of those who responded, which represents 26% of the total adult sample. Better-off, urban respondents are somewhat more likely to perceive corruption as common than the poor and the rural.

Table 13.12 Views on the Prevalence of Corruption

Corruption is Very Common and/or Quite Common	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Petty corruption				
- Those who responded, 60% of respondents	46	46	41	44
- Percentage of total sample	22	29	24	24
Grand corruption				
- Those who responded, 60% of respondents	43	44	38	41
- Percentage of total sample	24	30	24	25
Political corruption				
- Those who responded, 60% of respondents	40	40	39	40
- Percentage of total sample	23	27	26	26

Respondents were further asked to what extent they think corruption affects their personal and family lives, business and political life in Tanzania. About 45% of respondents thought that corruption affected their lives, 42% business life, and 39% political life. Only a few, 8%, believed corruption does not affect these three aspects of life. Again, significant proportions of respondents offered no opinion on these three topic areas (ranging between 38% and 43%).

People's views on the degree of corruption in different service sectors were also collected (Table 13.13). The police and the legal system stand out as the most corrupt services in public perceptions, with over 40% reporting that these services are affected by corruption "a lot". In general, urban perceptions of public sector corruption are more negative than rural, though differences are generally not significant.

Table 13.13 Perceptions of the Extent of Corruption by Sector

Perceived to be Affected by Corruption 'A Lot'	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
The police	48	51	44	46
Legal system	43	50	42	44
Health services	32	40	31	33
Registry and permits	26	30	21	24
Education system	21	26	19	21
Taxation system	21	24	17	19
Utilities	19	20	13	16

Payment of Bribes

Respondents were asked whether they or another household member had contact with various services during the year preceding the survey, and whether a bribe was paid. In Table 13.14, column 'C' represents the proportion of households contacting different service providers, and column 'B' is the proportion of those contacts in which a bribe was paid.

Table 13.14 Contacts with Service Providers and Payment of Bribes

Service Provider	Dar es Salaam %		Other Urban %		Rural Areas %	
	Con	Bri	Con	Bri	Con	Bri
The police	20	55	9	33	9	33
Legal system	14	43	9	22	9	22
Registry and permits	14	29	6	17	6	17
Taxation system	7	14	4	0	4	0
Education system	27	15	31	10	32	3
Utilities	12	17	5	0	5	0
Health system	42	24	43	9	43	9

Note: **Con** = proportion of households contacting service provider
Bri = Proportion thereof where a bribe was paid

Again, the services cited where the largest percentage of contacts involved a reported bribe were the police and the legal system. In Dar es Salaam, 55% of contacts with police were said to involve the payment of a bribe, and 43% of contacts with the legal system. About 42% of respondents indicated that they or other household members made use of health facilities during the preceding year. In Dar es Salaam, nearly a quarter of these contacts, 24%, involved payment of a bribe, for other urban and rural residents 9% reported payment of a bribe. Questions were asked of those who reported that they had paid bribes about the amount they had paid. However, the number of responses was very low, and the range of reported payments was wide, making difficult an analysis of these responses.

Below are examples of perceptions of some people from the focus group discussions that people bribe their way out of police custody, that reporting corruption is considered dangerous and futile, and that rights of people are traded and bought in the legal system.

BOX 8 CORRUPTION

“Kama mtu una malalamikio ya rushwa huwa unanyamaza tu. PCB walikuja na kutuachia vipeperushi. Wezi tunaowakamata huwa tunawapeleka polisi, ila baada ya siku mbili huwa wanarudi vijijini hivyo rushwa ipo wilayani na mijini sehemu nyingine hasa polisi na mahakamani.”

Meaning: ‘If you have a complaint about corruption, you just keep quiet. PCB [Prevention of Corruption Bureau] came and gave us brochures. The thieves/robbers we apprehend are taken to the police, but after two days they come back to the villages; therefore corruption is common at the district level and other urban centres, especially with the police and justice system.’

- Male Focus Group Discussion

“Hakuna jinsi, serikali si ile ile tu? Afadhali unyamaze, maana ukiripoti ni hatari zaidi unaweza hata kuuawa.”

Meaning: There is no way out, the government is the same, it is better to keep silent, because you endanger yourself if you make a report, you can be killed.’

- Female Focus Group

‘Mzee William and his brother are both watchmen in Dar es Salaam. One night in July 2007 thieves broke into the compound guarded by Mzee William’s brother and stole some iron sheets. Mzee William’s brother was arrested for aiding the thieves though he maintains he was sleeping. He was formally charged with stealing iron sheets and wood worth TShs 700,000 and locked up. He maintains the stolen materials weren’t worth a fraction of this amount. Mzee William paid TShs 40,000 for his brother to be released from prison. Mzee William who earns TShs 110,000 a month is worried that he will not be able to find the money needed to find his brother ‘not guilty’ when the case is heard.’

- A case study from individual life histories, Mikocheni, Dar es Salaam

Respondents were asked to rate the present government's efforts in tackling corruption, the results are shown in Table 13.15. Nearly 40% of respondents offered no opinion. Of those expressing opinions, many more thought the government is doing something in combating corruption than those who thought it is not. Fewer than one in five respondents thought the government's efforts were not effective.

Table 13.15 Perceptions of the Current Government’s Actions in Addressing Corruption

Government’s Actions Against Corruption	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Effective	41	48	45	45
Not effective	18	17	18	17
Don’t know/No answer	41	35	38	38

TRUST, COOPERATION AND SECURITY

The survey investigated Tanzanian's attitudes and feelings regarding a number of issues related to social capital. Trust is the glue that holds societies together; people who trust each other are more likely to cooperate than people who routinely suspect the motives of others. People who trust state service providers and each other are more likely to work together towards achieving joint objectives than people who lack such trust. Joint objectives include looking after common resources and protecting the most vulnerable members of society from the effects of natural disasters such as drought and famine, and social shocks such as illness, unemployment and extreme poverty. Such objectives are part of MKUKUTA and various sectoral policies. Protecting young children and the elderly are very important responsibilities, shared by families, communities, and the state. Thus, the survey set out to establish the level of trust that characterises modern Tanzanian society.

14.1 Trust

Adult respondents were asked, "Generally speaking, would you say that these days most people can be trusted, or that most people can't be trusted?", Table 14.1 reveals extremely low levels of trust. Only a minority of adult respondents, 22%, believe that, in general, most people can be trusted, while 78% believe that most people can't be trusted. Mistrust is higher in Dar es Salaam, 85%, than in rural areas - 75%.

Table 14.1 The Level of Trust in the Community

General Trust in the Community	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
People can be trusted	15	25	25	22
People can't be trusted	85	75	75	78

The survey followed up this very general question by asking how trustworthy some specific groups in the community were (refer to Table 14.2 overleaf). Not surprisingly, respondents were more likely to trust immediate family and clan members than more socially distant groups, but even here significant levels of mistrust are evident. Only 5% of respondents considered 'foreigners' very trustworthy and 9-10% thought the same of young men and women.

40% of the adult respondents considered Tanzanian strangers untrustworthy, and about the same percentage thought the same of young men. 60% considered foreigners untrustworthy.

Table 14.2 Groups in the Community who are Trustworthy

Groups	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %
Immediate family	60	65	68	66
Religious leaders	37	39	48	43
Clan/extended family	36	37	41	39
Teachers	20	24	33	28
Same ethnic group	16	23	29	25
Old women	21	24	32	27
Old men	18	22	30	26
Village/ward chairperson	12	24	28	23
Doctors and nurses	17	21	27	23
Local government officials	12	22	25	21
Politicians	7	15	18	14
Traders, businesswomen	7	12	15	12
NGO officials	6	11	15	12
Police	8	12	14	12
Tanzanian strangers	6	8	13	10
Young women	5	9	13	10
Young men	4	8	11	9
Foreigners	3	8	13	5

14.2 Crime and Alcoholism

People's reluctance to trust each other is reflected in perceptions of personal security as well as their views on the level of crime, violence and other social problems. People are generally worried about crime, violence and insecurity, but often there is disagreement on how bad things are and whether things are improving or getting worse. The survey investigated public perceptions of the incidence of and trends in these and related social problems (refer to Table 14.3 overleaf).

Alcoholism (as related to crime) was considered a serious problem by 63% of adult respondents overall, with this perception more widespread among rural residents. On average, the incidence of alcoholism is thought to be increasing, while the incidence of other social or community problems - such as disputes over land ownership and inheritance, drug taking, witchcraft accusations and domestic violence - are perceived to be declining, often significantly. However, theft of property is considered a serious problem by more than half of respondents, with more respondents in Dar es Salaam citing this problem. Drug abuse and mob justice are also considered more serious problems in Dar es Salaam than in other areas.

Apart from alcoholism and theft, only a minority of respondents considered other forms of violence and insecurity as serious problems. Though not considered major problems, disputes over land, inheritance (probably of land too), witchcraft and domestic violence appear more prevalent in rural than in urban areas. Box 9 provides some perceptions of alcoholism.

Table 14.3 Views on Crime, Violence and Insecurity

Serious Community Crime and Violence Issues	Dar es Salaam %	Other Urban %	Rural Areas %	All %	Trend Rising %	Trend Falling %
Alcoholism	54	59	64	63	33	24
Theft of property	56	49	50	52	25	43
Land ownership disputes	20	33	47	37	18	28
Witchcraft accusations	23	33	44	36	18	25
Disputes over land use	18	28	43	34	18	26
Drug taking	43	31	28	33	19	22
Domestic violence	24	27	32	29	11	36
Disputes over inheritance	15	23	32	25	13	26
Mob justice	36	18	15	21	12	31
Child abuse	18	17	21	20	9	31
Rape	17	14	17	16	9	29
Killing of people suspected to be witches	6	7	12	10	5	21

BOX 9 DRUNKENNESS IN TANZANIA

"Ulevi upo. Wengi hufanya ulevi kama njia ya kujiliwaza kutokana na umasikini."

Meaning: 'Drunkenness is common. Many resort to drinking as a way of dealing with poverty.'

- Female Focus Group

"Ulevi ni tatizo kubwa hata kwetu wanawake. Sasa kama baba na mama wote mnalewa unafikiri kuna maewano tena hapo?"

Meaning: 'Drunkenness is a big problem even for us women. If both father and mother are alcoholics, do you think they will understand each other?'

- Female Focus Group

"Ulevi ni tatizo kubwa sana, tunavumilia tunashindwa lakini hata wanawake walevi wapo."

Meaning 'Alcoholism is a big problem; we try to resist it but later we fail, but there are also some women who are alcoholics.'

- Female Focus Group

"Ulevi ni tatizo kubwa. Kila mtu baada ya kazi utamkuta na chupa ya pombe hadi saa nane za usiku, wengine wanaanza asubuhi."

Meaning: 'Alcoholism is a big problem. After work, you'll find everybody drinking; sometimes people drink until two in the morning, some start drinking from the morning.'

- Male Focus Group

"Ulevi hapa kwa ujumla ni tatizo ambalo hupelekea matatizo mengi kama mifarakano na maambukizi ya Virusi Vya Ukimwi."

Meaning: 'Alcoholism here in general is a problem that leads to many problems such as conflicts and HIV infection.'

- Male Focus Group

"Ulevi upo lakini siyo tatizo. Hapa watu wako busy na shughuli za kuingiza vipato."

Meaning: 'There is excessive drinking, but it's not a big problem here because people are always busy making a living.'

- Male Focus Group

Respondents were asked their views on mob justice. Nearly two-fifths of respondents, 38%, had heard of incidents of mob justice in their district during the previous year, and fully half of respondents in Dar es Salaam, but almost three-quarters of all respondents, 71%, said there was no justification for killing suspected thieves; this was 61% among Dar es Salaam respondents.

While Tanzanians express a high degree of general distrust of those not in their immediate family, they are generally quite optimistic in their views of recent trends in reductions in social problems and pathologies, with the notable exception of alcoholism, which is described as both widespread and increasing, particularly in rural areas.

14.3 Community Solidarity and Cooperation

Information on community solidarity and cooperation in executing some communal activities was sought - Table 14.4. More respondents saw a decline than an increase in community care for the poor, the sick and the old, protecting children against violence and abuse and efforts to teach children good behaviour. Community maintenance of roads and bridges, and the practice of cooperative land clearing and crop harvesting are also perceived to be on the decline. Overall, only minor differences were recorded in views between urban and rural respondents. However, community forest protection was seen to be on the increase by nearly half the rural respondents, twice the proportion perceiving a declining trend.

Table 14.4 Trends in Community Solidarity and Cooperation

Community Solidarity and Cooperation	Dar es Salaam %		Other Urban %		Rural Areas %		All %	
	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec	Inc	Dec
Helping the poor, the sick, the old	21	44	19	55	21	56	20	52
Teaching children good behaviour	26	42	29	45	30	43	29	43
Protecting children against violence/abuse	26	32	28	38	32	33	29	34
Joint land clearing and harvesting	-	-	12	42	24	46	16	34
Maintaining local roads and bridges	26	24	25	34	26	37	26	33
Guarding forests from misuse	-	-	30	25	48	24	34	19

Note: Inc = Increase Dec = Decrease