# **REPOA** C Newsletter



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#### POLICY RESEARCH FOR DEVELOPMENT

#### **Recent Publications**

#### **Research Report 12/1**

The Growth of Micro and Small Cluster Based Furniture Manufacturing Firms and their implications for Poverty Reduction in Tanzania

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## 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Research Workshop (ARW)



The 17th Annual Research Workshop (ARW) organized by REPOA, was held on March 28th - 29th under the theme "Socioeconomic transformation for poverty reduction". The objective of this workshop was to bring together researchers, policy makers and other stakeholders to exchange developmentexperiences. The workshop included scholars from different countries who shared their experience on socioeconomic transformation for more rapid poverty reduction, addressing the roles of the state, private sector, and communities

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## **National Centre for Employment** Studies to be established at REPOA

In response to the growing need for a better understanding of the nexus between growth, jobs and poverty reduction from several stakeholders in Tanzania, the Ministry of Labour and Employment and ILO are jointly supporting the establishment of the National Centre for Employment Studies (NCES) at REPOA.

### **Workshop on Natural Resource Investment** in Tanzania

Research on Poverty Alleviation, REPOA, in collaboration with Tanzania Natural Resource Forum (TNRF), and the International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED) organized a workshop on 'Making natural resource investment work for Tanzania', which was held on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13th of March 2012 at REPOA.

The workshop brought together key stakeholders from within and abroad to address the associated opportunities and challenges, to share knowledge and research findings, and to initiate an agenda to determine the way forward for better Making natural resource investment work for Tanzania.

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## **Feature: Understanding Lands and Investments in Tanzania**





Land conflicts are not new to Tanzania, but with the increasing focus on the formalization of land ownership and a drive to increase foreign direct investments, tensions over land and disputed land are increasing.

In response to a growing body of research, commentary and media reports documenting concerns over escalating levels of conflict associated with land based investments, across Africa and more specifically Tanzania, the Tanzanian Natural Resource Forum (TNRF) in partnership with Research on Poverty Alleviation (REPOA) and the International Institute on Environment and Development (IIED) initiated a study on Understanding Land and Investments in Tanzania. This study was completed in March, 2012.

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#### Feature: Manufacturing Firms need Support to Grow

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The construction of industrial clusters, is needed to support the pro-poor growth of manufacturing firms in Tanzania Specific programmes are required in order to enhance firm growth in different furniture industrial clusters, reveals a study which was published as a research report by REPOA in June 2012.

The study, titled 'The Growth of Micro and Small, Cluster-Based Furniture-Manufacturing Firms and their Implications for Poverty Reduction in Tanzania' calls for support in furniture industrial cluster growth by providing specific programmes to improve firm-level management and product quality.

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#### **REPOA's Research Grants**



REPOA continues to provide grants to junior and intermediate researchers as a part of the institution's capacity building programme. In January 2012, REPOA announced the first Call for Proposals for 2012. Shortlisted candidates from the call were given an opportunity to present their work in a capacity building seminar in May, 2012.

The seminar was part of the implementation of the revised procedure to ensure that the quality of the research carried out is set and maintained from the early stages. It is also an avenue for researchers to show how they plan to implement/ undertake their projects and allows them to learn from other experienced researchers as well as build their networks.

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## Training

#### **Training Sensitization Workshop for Members of Parliament** on the use of the TGN

In order to demonstrate the relevance of the Tanzania Governance Noticeboard (TGN) to Tanzanian Members of Parliament and how it can be used to enhance good governance in their

constituency work, REPOA organised a workshop with five Parliamentary committees (Finance and Economic Affairs, Infrastructure, Social Services, PAC and LAC) in June 2012.

During the workshop, MPs were guided on how to use the data available in TGN in their day to day duties as citizens' representatives.

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#### **Events in Pictures**



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#### **REPOA's Ongoing Research Projects** and Programmes

REPOA aims to conduct long-term research projects which at times are developed and implemented in collaboration with local and international research institutes, we also undertake commissioned research projects as one of the key avenues for the organisation to contribute to and participate in socio-economic and policy development processes.

REPOA's core research themes are Growth & Development, Social Protection and Governance.

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