



KAGUMU DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION

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POVERTY RESOURCE MONITORING AND TRACKING MODEL (PRMT)

**DOCUMENTATION OF
CIVIL SOCIETY CAPACITY BUILDING PROGRAMME**

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1.0 BACKGROUND

1.1 About Civil Society Capacity building programme (CSCBP)

The Civil Society Capacity Building Programme (CSCBP) is an initiative through which government is diversifying service delivery and providing space for civil society in national policy dialogue. The overall objective of the programme is to contribute to making government, donor policies and programmes increasingly responsive to the demands of the more vulnerable sections of the population. The specific objective is to enable the participating civil society organizations to engage effectively with government, the private sector and donor agencies in the development process.

1.2 Historical Background of PRMT

On the 19th May, 2003, partners working with EU Human rights and Good Governance program came together to discuss the need and the methods of inclusive assessment of poverty eradication programs in the country. This was against the background that, currently, the participation of the communities in the identification, implementation and monitoring of development programs is limited, there is still evidence of the top bottom approach as reflected in lack of consultation of communities. This is also reflected in the way CSO's conceive their projects and programs without full involvement and participation of the communities.

The participants included supported district civil society networks in Gulu, Kitgum, Pader, Kasese, Bundibugyo, Kabarole as well as DANIDA supported civil society networks in Mbale and Tororo districts, Kabarole Research and Resource Centre, UBOS, MOFEP, CAO'S from the districts. The working team mandated to develop a model for poverty resource monitoring, came up with a conceptual model for poverty resource monitoring. The first output of the model was piloted in Bwera Sub County in Kasese district, Labuje Sub County in Kitgum and

Pagak Sub County in Gulu district were lessons were drawn and the combined strategies were implemented to roll out PRMT model in other districts.

1.3 PRMT in the context of Civil Society Capacity Building Programme

The CSCBP integrated the PRMT as a community monitoring methodology in its programme design and the implementation largely started in July 2007- 28th June 2008., focusing on empowering beneficiary communities to monitor development programmes in their areas as well as identifying of priority needs to inform planning and resource allocation decision making. PRMT is intended to build the capacity of local communities to demand for top-down accountability from their leaders and ensuring that people's demands in the attainment of basic rights and needs are met by the service providers. It equally aspires to contribute to demand this top down accountability from the grantees.

PRMT is community centered and puts the beneficiaries at the centre where they are able to propel development as the rightful owners of the desired change. It involves generation of data and information, utilizing the findings for planning, advocacy, and implementation and demanding for accountability; and providing feed back to the communities. It is hoped that this human rights – based approach to development will move the attention away from treating beneficiary communities as recipients of goods and services from government, to active participants in the development process. It aims at increasing the appreciation by communities of their rights to development and to increase their ability to take responsibility for monitoring development programmes being implemented by Government and CSO, there by ensuring delivery of quality services. The Programme has supported 25 grantees to implement PRMT in at least one sub county. The implementation largely started in July 2007 and will go on until 28th June 2008. The PRMT implementation is at different levels and progress made varies among the grantees.

1.4 Objectives of the PRMT model

The PRMT has the following objectives:

- Empowering local populations to increasingly monitor development programmes in their localities that are being implemented by CSO and Government
- To enable the local populations to identify their priority needs in order to inform planning and resource allocation at sub county and district levels
- Empowered local populations through CSO to demand for top down accountability from duty bearers, service providers and leaders

1.5 INTRODUCTION OF PRMT IN PALLISA DISTRICT- EASTERN UGANDA

Project summary

Kagumu Development Organization among the organizations that received financial support from Civil Society Capacity Building Programme to implement Participatory Poverty Resource Monitoring Project (PRMT) in Bulangira Sub County, Pallisa District in Eastern Uganda.

The project was designed to empower local communities in Bulangira Sub County to get involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of development programmes and also to demand for their entitlements.

It was a six moth project piloted in the Sub County of Bulangira in Pallisa District.

The cost of the project Ushs 1,995,200 (One million nine hundred ninety five thousand two hundred only)

Purpose of the project: To enhance effective planning, implementation, monitoring and ownership of development resources among the local communities, local government technocrats and CSOs in Bulangira sub county in Pallisa District.

Project title: Empowering local communities to plan implement and monitor development programs in pallisa district

Project activities included:

- Mobilization for training in participatory poverty resource monitoring model (PRMT)
- Sharing of human rights issues for participatory poverty resource monitoring with stakeholders in 4(four) parishes of Bulangira sub county
- Dialogue meeting with Sub county council and Technocrats
- Dialogue meeting with District council and District Technical Planning Committee (

- Follow-up on Council Resolutions
- Feed back meetings in the 4parishes of Bulangira Sub County

Results of the project

- The community of Bulangira was empowered and demanded for re construction of a pit latrine at kakunyumunyu primary school that was poorly constructed and collapsed after the contractor was paid all the money meant for the work. The new latrine is in place in a good condition and functioning
- Community advocated form fencing of Bulangira health center iii and it was done.

Community demanded to be involved in planning, implementation and monitoring of local government programme and last financial year2007-2008, there was bottom top planning compared to the previous years 2006-2007. CSOs were invited in the annual district budget conference to present their annual report and budget. The district integrated CSO work plans into the district plan. Kagumu and Bulangira sub counties invited community members attend sub county budgetary meetings. Parish chiefs conduct parish budgetary meeting in which communities identified the priorities and made their work plan which was presented to the sub county.

A contactor was awarded a contract to construct a pit latrine in kakunyumunyu primary school In Bulangira Sub County in Pallisa district and was paid 50% of the total cost of the contract amount. I.e. Ushs 1.850,000 (one million eight hundred fifty thousand shillings only) the contractor was doing shoddy work and when the school administration refused to continue with the construction. In the course of constructing the pit latrine it collapsed. The school administration reported to the sub county local authority to block payment and also intervene in the scandal but nothing was affected. The district engineer went a head to process payment of 50% (1.850.000/=) to the contractor.

After empowering communities on their rights and entitlement under this program (PPRMT), they followed up the issue from the sub county to the district. The engineer was held responsible and made the contractor to re construct anew latrine. It is in use and good condition.



PRMT dialogue meeting at Bulangira Sub County Headquarters, a Parish Co-coordinator addressing community concerns to the Sub County authorities.



A pit latrine that collapsed in Kakunyumunyu primary school and the Pallisa District authority effected all Payment to the contractor



Anew pit latrine constructed by the same contractor when the community demanded for anew

*latrine after being empowered of
their rights*

ADVOCACY

The community of Kagumu Sub County was empowered in advocacy and lobbying under the project. This was a component of the project planned activities and it was purposely to advocate for involvement of farmer groups in planning, implementation, monitoring of local government development programmes, and integration of farmer plans in the sub county and district plans. Coalition committees were formed from parish level to the sub county to monitor development programmes and report to local authorities.

The community of Kagumu sub county received funds under northern Uganda social action fund (NUSAF). The community allocated these funds to construct a laboratory at Kagumu secondary school. Community project management committee (CPMC) was elected to manage the construction of the project. The committee indirectly took a contract to construct the laboratory. Part of Funds for the project was misused and the work hard reached a stand still without proper explanation to community. Misuse of the funds was under the influence of some politicians and technocrats. The chairperson LC111 of Kagumu sub county had earlier realized misuse of funds and wrote a letter to the district NUSAF coordinator, chief administrative officer, bank manager among others to suspend withdraw of funds form the project account and also come on the ground to establish value for money as per the work done. Nothing was done instead the CPMC liaised with said officers and ignored the chairperson's request/order. The CPMC was given ago ahead to withdraw funds of the project for use. Coalition committees mobilized the community and demanded accountability from the CPMC. The CPMC failed to produce accountability and it was terminated and forced to return some resources meant for construction of the project.

Anew committee was elected to mange the project and it was successfully completed and handed over to the community. This was as a result of community empowerment in advocacy under the project.



Kagumu secondary school completed laboratory is in use.

Students were washing laboratory equipments in preparation for chemistry practical

OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS

- Increased network and collaboration with other CSOs and local government. From time to time Pallisa district invite Kagumu development organization to its forums where we present our success stories. .
- Subcounty and Parish Poverty resource monitors were identified trained in the Sub County of Bulangira and are monitoring public resources

Lessons learnt;

- There is still poor attendance of community members in meetings. When they are invited for meetings they demand for allowances.
- Local government technocrats and other service providers take advantage of little turn up for meetings influencing them to make decisions which are not of their interest hence top bottom planning.
- Some communities still believe that they are not the masters of civil servants. They fear to demand services and accountability from service providers.

CONCLUSION

There still limited community awareness on their role and responsibilities in, planning implementation and monitoring of development programmes. This is explained by low sustainability rate of development programmes.

- Infrastructure such as boreholes, schools, health facilities, roads and other social centers constructed under different programs are breaking without maintenance.
- Services provided in all social centers are inadequate yet there are management committees
- Management committees lack adequate knowledge on their role and responsibilities in, planning implementation and monitoring of development programmes

RECOMMENDATION

There is need to empower the local communities to understand their obligations well as to demand for their entitlements and accountabilities from the duty bearers.

Development partners' should order should take empowerment of local communities in poverty resource monitoring as the first priority in order to make development projects sustainable