

COLLABORATION BETWEEN CIVIL SOCIETY AND MUNICIPALITY IN ADDRESSING COMMUNITY HOUSING AT MABWEPANDE RESETTLEMENT AREA:



INSTITUTIONAL SETTING:

The key institutional frame conditions for the practice that will be presented include responses to disaster by providing resettlement option for the urban poor who were affected by flooding.

Due to climate changes, a number of residents who are residing in valleys of informal settlements in Magomeni, Suna, Kigogo, Jangwani were affected by flooding which led the Government to resettle them at Mabwepande.

Although currently, Tanzania does not have a resettlement policy, political actions were done to assist the affected communities.

This however was made possible through the demands from the community, civil society and wider stakeholders whom had exerted pressure to the Government/ Municipality to respond to the resettlement challenge with more dignity.

STARTING POINT

The main challenge of this practice was to find mechanism through which the slum dwellers who were affected by flooding could have a better alternative habitation.

Majority of them had settled in valley flood prone areas due to proximity to the city center which make them easier to obtain their livelihood opportunities.

Hence the key issues which are addressed in this respects is how to address the land distribution for the urban poor equitably; how to build community actions for improving their livelihood using savings and credits scheme; how to engage the different stakeholders in addressing the challenge by addressing the land, technology, infrastructure and finance.

APPROACH

The key approaches which were developed include community organization through savings empowerment; stakeholder's engagement in addressing the resettlement.

Through Partnership between Government, Local Government, NGOs and private sector was crucial in building the resources.

The Kinondoni Municipality provided free land worth (\$250,000); the private sector provided water and electricity Humanitarian Organizations provided relief support.

Centre for Community Initiatives an NGO provided training on affordable materials, using an experience of Chamazi project provided individual loans between (\$1,000 - \$1,500) will be issued for 50 residents.

OUTPUTS

Provision of land for the low income communities has provided a precedence for the Government to consider for the future needs of slum dwellers.

Training of the community to construct their own affordable housing schemes has enabled them to build their own houses.

Build a community organization which enables to create a voice for demanding their rights is critical and crucial.

Build the community urban poor fund which could help the community to access affordable loan at small interest rates.

Instigate a debate for the need to develop a resettlement and slum upgrading policies which are currently missing.

Informed knowledge regarding the impacts of climate change and how resilience could be achieved.

LESSONS

Due to the increased high urbanization rate and lack of affordable land, the urban poor will continue to be vulnerable

Slum dwellers need to be organized in order to ensure that their rights and demands are heard

Government need to develop standards suitable for slum dwellers which can also allow innovation for land and housing for the urban poor.

Private sector including utilities have a great role in bringing capital for slum improvement hence should be engaged.

Community mobilization through savings and credits is critical in ensuring active participation

Financial institutions need to design appropriate products to support the urban poor by considering new mechanism of work.