



UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA



DECENTRALISATION AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT REFORM & MDGs CHALLENGES AND WAY FORWARD



1.0 Introduction

- National Conference whose theme was “Towards a Shared Vision for LGA in Tanzania”, May 1996
- Local Government Reform Agenda;
- Policy Paper on Local Government Reform, October, 1998



2.0 Main Features of LG Policy Paper

- Promotion of participation in local governance;
- De-linking administrative staff from Sector Ministries;
- Improving Financial Management and accountability; and
- Creating new system of Central-local government relations



3.0 Specific Legal Local Government Responsibilities

- Basic education
- Basic Health Care
- Roads
- Water
- Agricultural Extension
- Local Administration
- Other Local Government Services



4.0 Decentralisation issues that have an impact on MDGs

- Fiscal decentralisation
- Human resources decentralisation
- Legal harmonisation and institutional framework



5.0 Challenges and Strategies

- Effective transfer of powers, functional responsibilities and resources to LGAs;
- Public participation in decision-making and implementation of local development programmes;
- Management of local resources;
- Accountability of politicians (councillors) and councils staff;
- Capacity building of LGAs; and
- Involvement of communities and private organisation in delivery of public services.



6.0 Way Forward in Implementing MDGs

- Continue the strengthening of public institutions;
- Effective application of the subsidiarity principle in assigning roles, responsibilities and finance and human resources;
- Capacity building of LGAs to enable them to implement the MDGs



6.0 Way Forward in Implementing MDGs

- Enhance transparency and accountability at all levels of LGAs;
- Streamline the legal and institutional framework so as to increase efficiency and cost effectiveness; and
- Implementation of the National Strategy for Growth and Reduction of Poverty that incorporates the MDGs.



7.0 Conclusion

- Effective implementation of MDGs requires the involvement of local people;
- LGAs in Tanzania plays a key role in implementing the MDGs because of its legal position;
- Importance of LGAs being well managed, properly financed and guided by appropriate legal and institutional framework; and
- Assuring an efficient allocation of responsibilities and public resources is crucial in meeting the targets of MDGs in Tanzania

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THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION