



Tanzania

Accountability

2014/15

Fahamu, Ongea Sikilizwa (Informed, Speaking and Heard) project

The Fahamu Ongea Sikilizwa (Informed, Speaking, and Heard) project was developed to respond to community awareness needs and participation in Tanzania's constitution review processes. Tanzania has been in the process of developing a new constitution since 2013. Oxfam has been coordinating a consortium which has been working to encourage citizens to become informed, to speak up, and to be heard regarding issues around the constitution-making process. The consortium consisted of four partners: Oxfam, Voluntary Service Overseas, Restless Development and the Legal and Human Rights Centre.

The goal of this project is to ensure that the issues being voiced by Tanzanians, especially marginalized groups, are incorporated into the constitutional review process and are ultimately reflected within the new Tanzanian Constitution. The project had two main objectives:

1. Marginalized women and youth in Tanzania are informed about the constitution and the review process, speaking about their opinions, and heard by the duty bearers in the constitution review process.
2. Following the constitution review process, referendum citizens are empowered to hold their leaders accountable and ensure that their rights are protected. However, the second objective could not be achieved as the constitution-making process was terminated in October 2014. At the time of this review the new constitution was due to be made available in 2015, after a general election.

Evaluation Design

Accountability Reviews seek to assess the degree to which a project meets Oxfam's standards for accountability. Drawing on a number of data sources, external consultants consider and reach judgements on both Oxfam's mutual accountability in our partnerships, and Oxfam and partners' shared accountability to those it works on behalf of.

For details on evaluation design, see the 'How are effectiveness reviews carried out?' document, and the full report for how these designs were tailored by individual reviews.

Project date: March 2013–July 2014

Evaluation: December 2014

Publication: December 2016

Results

	Oxfam's accountability to partners					Oxfam and partners' accountability to communities				
	Score	1	2	3	4	Score	1	2	3	4
Transparency	Oxfam		2			Oxfam/Partner	1			
	Partner			3		Community		2		
	Review team		2			Review team	1			
Feedback	Oxfam		2			Oxfam/Partner		2		
	Partner			3		Community		2		
	Review team		2			Review team		2		
Participation	Oxfam			3		Oxfam/Partner	1			
	Partner				4	Community			2	
	Review team			3		Review team			2	
Overall Accountability	Oxfam		2			Oxfam/Partner	1			
	Partner			3		Community		2		
	Review team		2			Review team		2		

Partnership practices to partners: *'It is the first time I have heard about the staff code of conduct and complaint policy. Maybe they were shared with our bosses and never reached the project focal people.'* Consortium member during workshop in Dar es Salaam

Transparency to communities: *'Oxfam and Morogoro paralegals were here and I had an opportunity to be informed about their budget, activities, plans. When we come here they always tell us about their projects and they give us an update but also tell us that we have received an interest from Oxfam on Gender Based Violence and that we will be having a project that is about million shillings. The only concern for me is not getting the deep information and for this I give them 2 (medium) as a fair score.'* (Female, 59yrs: Morogoro)

Satisfaction in communities: When we asked the participants how useful the project was to the people the responses were very mixed. Some members believed that the project did not reach the community, thus its usefulness is difficult to observe. Others said that at least some individuals and groups were reached and thus a fair score would be low. However, a unanimous picture comes from all the focus group discussions and key informant interviews that it is impossible to comment on how the project's money was used as they were not engaged in or informed about the actual budget and unit costs of the activities.

Transparency to communities: *'We have limited understanding of the NGOs and other partners. But we are informed about the constitutional review process and if you want let us discuss about the constitution.'* (Male, 31yrs: Mbeya)

Accountability partners to communities: *'This is the first time I am hearing about Fahamu, Ongea and Sikilizwa Project. I have heard about Katiba from the government especially during open public meetings. You better talk of Katiba project than Fahamu.'* (Male, 28yrs: Morogoro)

Key Commitments

The Tanzania team are committed to further involving community structures and local leaders as well as marginalized groups, in the implementation of this and Oxfam's related Chukua Hatua project. Both projects will also extend civic and voters' education to local government leaders. In Chukua Hatua active citizen animators will be identified from communities so that there is close collaboration between them and local leaders.

For Fahamu, Ongea, Sikilizwa, elections toolkits and publications will be developed in English and Swahili for use of populations outside the project area. Elections toolkits will also be made available in Braille and distributed in all 20 regions where the project is implemented. Citizens' stories will be uploaded onto a public election website in English and Swahili, and all project documentation will be kept on a shared drive and available to all staff. Project 'contact' people will be identified at district level. Text messaging and social media will be used to gather feedback from partners and community members. The project consortium will work with local leaders and the media to increase awareness of their responsibilities in preparing citizens and duty bearers for election day. Joint monitoring by all consortium members will be undertaken, at times this will include DFID and USAID.

A cross-programme learning tour will also be organized to allow the team to learn from other programmes.

Photo credit: Kisuma Mapunda/Oxfam