Pamoja Trust
creating voice and space with the Urban Poor

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PARTNERSHIP FOR AFRICAN SOCIAL
& GOVERNANCE RESEARCH

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social dimensions of
**INFRASTRUCTURAL
DEVELOPMENT**

Background

Background

Large infrastructure investments have been seen as a mechanism towards economic recovery and/or growth. Most countries adopted this mechanism after the 2007-2008 Global Economic recession as a means to spur growth. In Kenya, this targeted economic rejuvenation following the 2007/2008 Post-Elections violence. For instance, the allocation for infrastructure in the Second Medium Term Plan (MTP 2) was Ksh. 6.5 Trillion. Such investments, while contributing to economic growth, result in displacement and dispossession, particularly for slum inhabitants. This is mainly because the government compensation seems to target people with legitimate tenure claims and supporting documentation, even though this practice conflict with the guidelines provided by most development partners such as the European Investment Bank (EIB), the French Development Bank (AFD) and the World Bank. Best practice would be to compensate affected persons with property of commensurate quality, size and value, or better (ibid).

The lack of a standardized policy that guides infrastructure development in Kenya means that such projects can be driven by the dictates of various development agencies. Consequently, various infrastructure projects use different safeguard standards put in place either through laws or through partner agreements. This in part, continues to contribute to the disenfranchisement and dispossession of the urban poor. At the same time, it seems that the quest for material growth and the resultant appreciation of property value is one of the biggest drivers of displacement and dispossession of individuals and groups who reside along pathways and reserves of various infrastructures. While infrastructure growth is expected to contribute to social and economic prosperity, we continue to see a system that deliberately ignores the well being of the most marginalized sectors of society.

This is the underpinning for the Urban Governance and City Transformation Utafiti Sera House hosted by Pamoja Trust in collaboration with the Partnership for Social and Governance Research (PASGR). The House brings together urban stakeholders with expertise of working on issues related to urban governance and have pointed to various elements that require consideration for the urban renewal scheme and its infrastructure initiatives to succeed. The stakeholders' appreciate the inextricable link between infrastructure development and safeguarding the inalienable rights of local communities.

The house was inaugurated in January 2018. In its inaugural convening on 29th January 2018, the participants mapped out various stakeholders in the sector and agreed on designated issues to tackle. From this interaction, a series of working meetings have been held to further analyze the stakeholders, their roles and the issues they represent. Members of the House agreed that infrastructure development is one of the main causes of urban dispossession. For instance, it was reported by Amnesty International that over 100 people in Jomvu were evicted owing to the expansion of the Mombasa Highway. It was therefore agreed that the House should further analyze the social dimensions of infrastructure projects while appreciating the roles played by all relevant stakeholders. Subsequent planning meetings reviewed existing attempts to deal with these issues, and proposed modalities and actions for change. Further, the House has been able to identify specific issues that require policy intervention. These issues include land tenure, housing, participation, actionable data, Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) among others.

Forum Objectives

The forthcoming forum builds on the experiences from the last convenings (the inaugural meeting and subsequent steering committee meetings). It will provide a space to present and deliberate on existing evidence to inform policy dialogue on how to make urban governance more inclusive. Similarly, the forum shall be a platform to interrogate the issues that had been identified in the first forum and suggest various policy options that could lead to more inclusive urban growth. From this analysis, members shall identify policy and legislative actions that would help curb the threat of dispossession even as newer areas continue to urbanize. The specific objectives of the convening are:

- To review existing evidence to understand the implications of skewed infrastructure investment and identify opportunities for change;
- To analyze the various policy and legislative gaps that result in varying standards of infrastructure project implementation and develop policy responses;
- To assess the extent to which new infrastructure projects in peri-urban and rural areas impact or are impacted by urbanization; and
- To disseminate and deliberate on proposed policy brief.

Participants

The convening shall bring together all participants who were involved in the first convening and subsequent planning meetings. The Stakeholder Mapping report shall provided a basis for identifying the categories of participants to be included in the house, while determining areas of deficiency. This forum shall include representation from the Government agencies (Roads, Energy, Water & Sanitation etc), Non-State (Private Sector) Actors, Civil Society Organizations and community groups.

Program Composition:

The convening shall take the form of a residential meeting held over the course of 2-half days. The team shall arrive at the designated venue in time for lunch that shall be followed by the first session. During this session, highlights of the Synthesis Report shall be presented after which the issues and recommendations paper shall be discussed. These two documents shall form the basis for providing input into the draft policy brief. The team shall depart the following day after lunch. The session shall be held using a mix of presentations, group discussions and plenary discussions.

Program

Time	Activity	Facilitator
1300hrs - 1315hrs	Introductions	Facilitator
1315hrs - 1345hrs	Opening Remarks	Dr. Steve Ouma - Pamoja Trust
		Prof. Tade Aina - PASGR
1345hrs - 1415hrs	Opportunities for Infrastructure	Silvester Kasuku - LAPSSET
1415hrs - 1445hrs	Missed Opportunities	Marlon Konchellah - Subject Expert
1445hrs - 1530hrs	Q & A	Facilitator
1530hrs - 1545hrs	Health Break	
1545hrs - 1730hrs	Group Work (4 Groups)	Anthony Otiende - House Champion
Day 2	Recap	Maureen Kinyua - Rapporteur
0830hrs - 1000hrs	Group Work Presentations	Facilitator
1000hrs - 1045hrs	Plenary	Alderin Ongwae - Pamoja Trust
1045hrs - 1100hrs	Health Break and Photo Session	
1100hrs - 1100hrs	Proposed Policy interventions and its implication for RPF	Anthony Otiende - House Champion
1100hrs - 1200hrs	Group Discussion: Suggestions and Stakeholder Obligations	Josiah Mwangi - KURA
1200hrs - 1245hrs	Plenary	Facilitator
1245hrs - 1300hrs	Closing remarks	George Wasonga - CSUDP

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Pamoja Trust is a non-profit making organization founded in 1999. PT is dedicated to promoting access to land, shelter and basic services for the Urban Poor. The organization takes principled and pragmatic approaches to protection and promotion of the right to the city through advocacy and precedence setting models for problem solving. PT provides social, technical and legal expertise at local community, national and international levels to ensure that urban growth and urbanism adhere to social justice principles and that national and international human rights standards are implemented in favour of the most vulnerable of urban citizens.

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The Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (PASGR) is an independent, non-partisan pan-African not-for-profit organization established in 2011 and located in Nairobi, Kenya. PASGR's vision is a 'vibrant African social science community addressing the continent's public policy issues'. PASGR seeks excellence in social science research for public policy. In partnership with individual academics and researchers, higher education institutions, research think tanks, civil society organizations, business and policy communities both in the region and internationally, PASGR supports the production and dissemination of policy relevant research; designs and delivers suites of short professional development courses for researchers and policy actors; and facilitates the development of collaborative higher education programmes.

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