



## PRESS RELEASE

### **Third Segment of the Africa Good Governance Program on the Radio Waves: Municipal Finance and Participatory Budgeting**

The ***Africa Good Governance Program on the Radio Waves*** goes into its third round on April 5, 2007 with the launch of the **Municipal Finance and Participatory Budgeting** program in Ghana, Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda. As in the previous two offerings - **Governing Municipalities without Corruption**, and **Civic Participation for Good Governance** - the radio learning program is being jointly coordinated by the Municipal Development Partnership for Eastern and Southern Africa (MDP-ESA) and the World Bank Institute (WBI). They are partnering with several national associations of local governments in the participating countries, including: the National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana (NALAG), the Association of Local Government Authorities of Kenya (ALGAK), the Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT), and the Uganda Local Governments Association (ULGA). The program is being transmitted by First Voice International via digital radio.

**Municipal Finance and Participatory Budgeting** supports processes of municipal institutional change by designing tools for understanding the municipal budget and its preparation and implementation. The program assists municipal officials and citizens in learning specific budgeting methods and techniques that can be adapted and applied to their own localities.

*"We hope this program will not only serve as a contribution reinforcing the well established tradition of effective dialog between local authorities and citizens, but will also serve as a campaign tool for realizing efficient management, improved governance, and improved development outcomes and investments,"* says **Frannie Léautier, Vice President of the World Bank Institute.**

The program will be aired on Thursdays in 30-minute weekly sessions on the Africa Learning Channel (BCID 750) at 1pm East African time and will run until June 2007. In addition to the radio broadcasts, the audio files, complementary materials, and inputs from the participants will be featured on a website and wirelessly transmitted to local receiving stations. This will allow the participants to access the courses at any convenient time and further increase program outreach. The program features two courses: Municipal Finance and Participatory Budgeting.

**Municipal Finance** covers the importance of the municipal budget, main budgetary concepts, and principles. It will allow participants, in particular local financial officers, to identify key issues that need to be addressed to realize budgetary improvements and implement corresponding administrative, procedural, and institutional reforms.

**Participatory Budgeting** will help participants gain knowledge on the importance of civil society participation in the budgetary process. By listening and actively participating in this program, different stakeholders will be in a better position to understand achievements and shortcomings in their own local budgetary processes, and to



appreciate the benefits of civil society participation, including the participation of people in the poorest communities.

*"The upcoming courses will not only provide the theoretical framework, but also allow participants to adapt the lessons learned in their own municipalities. This augments the processes of social inclusion and decentralization,"* says **George Matovu, Regional Director of the MDP-ESA.**

The program uses an interactive approach that builds on the great oral tradition of knowledge exchange in Africa - learning through active listening and sharing. Participants will not only listen to the course modules, but also develop strategies for adapting and applying the modules in their municipalities. These strategies may be replicated in other local constituencies and contribute to the creation of a network of expert practitioners among the participating countries.

The program's target audience includes mayors, local public officials, civil society groups, and interested members of the public. The national associations of local governments will organize learning centers in their countries. Certificates will be issued to each participant who completes both courses.

While the program will initially be broadcast in English, there are plans to include local languages in subsequent deliveries.

*For additional information please visit: [www.mdpafrica.org.zw](http://www.mdpafrica.org.zw) or [www.wbiurban.org](http://www.wbiurban.org)*

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **Contacts in Countries:**

##### **GHANA:**

National Association of Local Authorities of Ghana (NALAG)  
Mr. Kwasi Ameyaw-Cheremeh, General Secretary  
P.O. Box 1953 Accra, Ghana  
Tel: +233 21 7010298, Fax: +233 21 668104, Email: [nalag@africaonline.com.gh](mailto:nalag@africaonline.com.gh)  
**Country facilitator:** Mr. Matthias Dorglo, Phone: +233 21 7010298

##### **KENYA:**

Association of Local Government Association of Kenya (ALGAK)  
Mr. Hamis Mboga, Secretary General  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, Utali House, Utali Street  
P.O. Box 73328-00200, Nairobi, Kenya  
Tel: +254 20 249695 / 242758, Fax: +254 20 242758, Email: [algak@kenyaweb.com](mailto:algak@kenyaweb.com)  
Website: [www.algak.net](http://www.algak.net)  
**Country facilitator:** Ms. Joyce Nyambura; Mobile: +254 (0) 734 979 199

##### **TANZANIA:**

Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania (ALAT)  
Mr. Basilius R. Nchimbi, Secretary General  
P.O. Box 7912, Dar es Salaam, Tanzania  
Tel: +255 22 2122452, Fax: +255 22 2132590, Email: [alat\\_tz@yahoo.com](mailto:alat_tz@yahoo.com)  
**Country facilitator:** Mr. John Lubuva, Mobile: +255 (0) 784 345719

##### **UGANDA:**

Uganda Local Governments Association (ULGA)  
Mr. Raphael Magyezi, Secretary General  
Plot No. 136 Kibuga, Block 13 Najjanankumbi, Entebbe Road,



P.O. Box 23120, Kampala, Uganda  
Tel: +256 41 347575, Fax: +256 41 251949, Email: [ulaa@africaonline.co.ug](mailto:ulaa@africaonline.co.ug)  
**Country facilitator:** Ms. Liz Nkongi, Mobile: +256 (0) 772484742

**MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP FOR EASTERN AND SOUTHERN AFRICA,**  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor Hurudza House, 14-16 Nelson Mandela Avenue, Harare, Zimbabwe,  
Tel: +263 4 774 385/6; Fax: +263-4-774387; [www.mdpafrica.org.zw](http://www.mdpafrica.org.zw)  
Coordinator: Mr. George Matovu, Mobile: +263 (0) 11 603 247

**THE WORLD BANK INSTITUTE,**  
1818 H Street, N.W. Washington, DC 20433, U.S.A.  
Phone: +1 202 458 8338 Fax: +1 202 676 0978  
<http://www.worldbank.org/wbi/governance>  
Contact Person: Mr. Peter Schierl; E-mail [pschierl@worldbank.org](mailto:pschierl@worldbank.org) email: or  
[wbiurban@worldbank.org](mailto:wbiurban@worldbank.org)