

OPEN GOVERNANCE ACTION PLAN DEVELOPMENT AND INCEPTION MEETING FOR THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NANDI ON 10TH, JUNE, 2021 AT STARBUCKS HOTEL - ELDORET - DAY 1

MODERATOR: Felix Maiyo

RAPORTUER: Robbert Kirui

PRESENTERS

1. Jonnathan Misoj
2. Franciscah Marabu
3. Timothy kiprono
4. John Maritim

OBJECTIVE OF THE WORKSHOP: TO DEVELOP OGP ACTION PLAN FOR THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF NANDI

The workshop was opened with a word of prayer from Mr.Robert Kirui.

The moderator then led the team on the introduction part, expectations, setting ground rules and workshop objectives

OPENING REMARKS

Speaking during the workshop, the county secretary Dr.Francis Sang highlighted that the action plan will give a roadmap in achieving open governance across all the service delivery units. He added that OGP will enhance better government-citizen relationship, empower citizens and fight corruption through transparency and accountability.

The county secretary further thanked the entire team for finding time to participate in the forum. He identified the steering committee and the technical committee and he opened the workshop officially.

The chief officer ICT and e-Government Jonnathan Misoj, gave an over view of where Nandi county has come from in matters OGP. In 2019, the county government of Nandi governor, his Excellency Stephen Sang, gave him an assignment, at that time, there was an ongoing process for Kenya to develop what is called map three and Nandi County got an invite to go and listen to what OGP was all about in Mombasa. National action plan three for Kenya was being discussed since Kenya was now a member and they needed to ensure that the country now has a number of commitments that are needed to be implemented , and one of them was that National government should publish companies when they are given vouchers for the people to know what companies are doing.

The chief officer ICT and e-Government went ahead to elaborate that In 2020, the county government of Nandi began the application process, identified partners, one of them being the national tax payers association and applied to join OGP and Nandi County was successfully selected among makueni, elgeyo Marakwet and Nairobi county to join OGP Global for Kenya.

After joining, there now comes a time when the county needs to do serious things to ensure that the momentum is sustained to ensure that the county does not drop out of OGP. Therefore the county need to develop an action plan that needs to be submitted by the end

of July to OGP to show the areas that the county want to commit to and focus on. The county need to ensure that it choses either top three or any other few commitments as will be guided by OGI, NTA and Elgeyo Marakwet .

He noted that through the office of the county secretary, two committees had been selected, the steering committee made up of chief officers that come from specific departments that are key and the technical committee. Misoi added that, the county government of Nandi can be opened by, conducting public participation on budgets, youth engagement and public views through the call centre among others.

The chief officer for Finance and Economic planning Felix Sambu, highlighted on some of the benefits of joining OGP. He said that OGP will ensure effective service delivery, fight corruption and empower citizens, open contracting and access to information by the general public. He emphasised that the county government of Nandi was headed in the right direction. He also thanked the tax payers association in their assistance and partnership and Elgeyo Marakwet.

KEY POINTS FROM PRESENTERS;

The major presentations were;

- Why OGP-Nandi county's OGP ambition and goals
- Back ground to OGP
- Action plan development /co-creation planning-approaches (public participation) and resources (Multi-stakeholder forum (MSF), Co-creation toolkit, materials etc.)
- Nandi counties priority areas and co-creation approaches
- Breakout sessions on priorities and co-creation approaches (Adding to the proposed priorities and determining how stakeholders participate).

In her presentation, Franciscah from the National Tax Payers Association explained why NTA was interested in OGP. In her introduction, she said that NTA is an independent, non-partisan organization focused on promoting good governance in Kenya and since 2006, NTA has been implementing programmes focused on enhancing public accountability through monitoring the quality of public service delivery and the management of devolved funds. It has achieved this through the development of social accountability tools (citizen report cards).

She indicated that NTA wanted to join OGP in order to strengthen its interventions and advocacy on the need open governance. NTA intervention on OGP though has not achieved the target results and so the implementation and fixing of community concerns have not been optimally addressed. Therefore, collaboration with local government will provide room for local government and CSOs to jointly identify issues that impedes the local government from providing quality services to the local people and jointly identify solutions to the identified issues.

Franciscah noted that NTA is a member of national-world taxpayers association, regional advocacy institutions that gives impetus to our- in- country research and advocacy through a credible evidence base.

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RAPORTUER: Robbert Kirui

PRESENTERS;

Jonnathan Miso

Francisah Marabu

Timothy Kiprono

RECAP

Timothy did a recap on Understanding the OGP process and where it starts from. The team also watched a video on open governance.

Mr.Maritim discussed how Elgeyo Marakwet County has tried to manage resistance to change, and he noted that though the county had not managed it completely, the county used;

- Response to questions
- Communication
- Reward system
- Recommendation letters
- Authoritative orders

He noted that open days was done in Marakwet County within a span of three months to cover all the twenty wards and also a round table is done with the CSOs.

Timothy and Maritim led the team in mapping the progress made towards achieving the vision statement and identifying the gaps. Some of the gaps that were noted include;

- Partial implementation of the public participation law
- Inadequate civic education in preparation for public participation
- Quality of participation
- Inadequate representation of interest groups
- Low turnout of citizens during public forums, especially special interest groups.

Maritim went ahead to guide groups in coming up with a vision statement after which the Group presentations were Done by the group representatives namely;

Group 1-Mathew Rotich

Group 2-Evans Sirma

Group 3-Robert kirui

The three vision statements from the three groups were harmonized to come up with one main vision for OGP in the county government of Nandi led by, Mary, Francisca, George, Timothy and Maritim. Therefore the agreed on vision statement is;

A CITIZENRY EMPOWERED THROUGH AN OPEN AND RESPONSIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

Chief Officer ICT and e-Government closed the workshop and thanked everyone for taking their time to participate in the development of OGP action plan for the county government of Nandi. He emphasised on the priority areas of commitment by the county and the timeline. The main priority areas include;

- Public participation and civic education
- Budget making process and open development data
- Citizen oversight and youth engagement
- Open contracting and open procurement