



eParticipation in Slum Upgrading in Mtwapa (Kenya)

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Abstract:

The workshop focuses on an e-participation pilot project in Mtwapa which is embedded in the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) and the FUPOL Project. Mtwapa is a township within the fringes of Mombasa on the Kenyan east coast. The Mtwapa slum upgrading project targets to address 5 deprivations that include improvement of sewerage, sanitation, access to drinking water, sufficient living area, durable housing and security of tenure. The PSUP principle is centered on community participation by offering forums for slum communities to engage with central and local. The community participation in the PSUP is based on the E-Participation tools of the FUPOL project, which is used to guide the slum upgrading by providing a platform to gather public inputs, judge consensus, offer 2-way discussions between residents and authorities and develop projects. The project is financed by the Europe Commission (EUROPEAID) with political backing of the Africa, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Group of States Secretariat.

Keywords: FUPOL (Future Policy Modelling), eGovernance, eParticipation, Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme

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Topic

The principal item of the workshop is the PSUP (Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme) project, which aims at improving living standards of slum dwellers in Mtwapa by addressing the five deprivations of slums namely the lack of access to safe drinking water, access to improved sanitation, overcrowding, permanency of living structures, and security of tenure. It was initiated by UN Habitat and the FUPOL leadership.

Currently, there are 34 countries and 150 cities across Africa, Caribbean and Pacific States (ACP) participating in the programme. The programme's purpose is to strengthen capacity of local, central and regional institutions and key stakeholders' in settlement and slum improvement through the use of good governance and management approaches, pilot projects and contributing, where needed, to the policy development, and the implementation of institutional, legislative, financial, and normative and implementation frameworks.

Mtwapa is located in Kenya's Kilifi County in the vicinity of Mombasa City. Its population was estimated to be about 50,000 people in the 2009 through the Kenya National census, and half of them live in the informal settlements and slums. The approximate locations of these disadvantaged areas are marked in red in the map below.



Figure -1 Map of Mtwapa Slum Area

The overall objective is to improve the standard of life of people living in informal settlements in Mtwapa town by regularizing all informal settlements, improving infrastructure services, and encouraging housing improvements by the owners resulting in a Slum Free Mtwapa.

This major objective should be driven by extensive e-Participation of the population in Mtwapa. To avoid social exclusion comprehensive support is provided by an excellent social framework and a moderated approach.

Description and Objectives of the Workshop

The main objectives of the workshop are:

- Brief overview of the Mtwapa pilot site (facts and figures about Mtwapa)
- Background information about the Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme (PSUP) in Mtwapa

- Social and political setting as for instance
 - Project Management Structure
 - Country Team
 - Steering Committee
 - Social Aspects and Processes to avoid exclusion (training, etc.)
- Definition of the methodology that is going to be used, as for instance
 - Evaluation Approach, questionnaires
 - Evaluation Tools
 - Key Performance Indicators
- Presentation of the piloting activities
- Summarization of the results

Relevance of the Workshop to the CeDEM

CeDEM (Conference for E-Democracy and Open Government) is an international conference which provides a platform for experts in the fields of e-participation, e-democracy and open government and is organized by the Centre for E-Governance at the Danube University.

The Mtwapa project is a slum upgrading project, which uses e-participation to a great extent by its citizens to guide the slum upgrading in the affected area. Specific information, training and guidance to avoid exclusion from e-participation are provided. Hence the discussion of the Mtwapa project is fully in line with the ideas and the agenda of CEDEM 2014 and of specific value for the audience of the conference.

Questions to be addressed during the Workshop

The major questions to be addressed in the workshop are the following:

- How is the Mtwapa pilot embedded in the FUPOL project and the Mtwapa PSUP project?
- What are the main objectives of the Mtwapa Participatory Slum Upgrading Programme?
- How is the the whole slum upgrading process supported by e-participation?
- Can social exclusion be avoided in the e-participation process?
- What are the main political priorities in the Mtwapa piloting actions?
- Which are the major features of the moderated approach?
- Which tools are available for the evaluation of the project?
- What are the key success factors?
- Which pilot dissemination channels are used?

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About the Proposers

Albert Padros

Albert Padrós is a Human Settlements Officer at the Local Government and Decentralization Unit of UN-Habitat. He holds a B.A. on Political Science and Administration from Universidad Autónoma de Barcelona and a Master's degree on European Affairs from l'Institut d'Etudes Politiques de Paris. He is a co-founder in 2004 of Cafebabel.com Barcelona as part of an innovative pan-European non-profit organisation that helped pioneer participatory journalism and positioned it at the forefront of the revolution of citizen participation in online media. Albert is specialised in urban governance and project management. He currently focuses his work on urban governance and ICT, youth and governance working together with a varied number of international partners.

Joshua Maviti

Joshua Maviti is Human Settlement Officer at the Housing and Slum Upgrading Branch of the UN-Habitat in Nairobi. He is a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) speccialist providing the PSUP Country Teams with technical backup to utilise spatial analysis in the slum upgrading and urban planning activities. He is a Masters of Science Graduate from Manchester Metropolitan University (UK) and hods a Bachelors Degree from Kenyatta University, Kenya, in Environmental Science. Joshua has worked in different capacities in Africa within the larger field of data management and more specifically spatial data management by implementing GIS proejcts in urban and rural sectors. He is coordinating the implementation of PSUP in Mtwapa and overseeing day-to-day activities of the project including the eParticipation project in colloboration with FUPOL and the Ministry of Land, Housing and Urban Development and the Kilifi County Government.

Peter Sonntagbauer

Peter Sonntagbauer is a Senior Project Director in Cellent AG (AT) with extensive project management skills combined with 30 years of practical experience. He graduated in 1979 (PhD) in applied statistics and informatics. On top of his academic education he holds many advanced certificates including IPMA, PRINCE2 Practitioner, ITIL and COBIT. He was working as a consultant for international organizations, large corporations and managed large scale IT projects both in the private as well as in the public sector in Europe, Africa and Asia for more than 20 years. Since 2011 he is project director of the research project "Future Policy Modeling" (FUPOL). FUPOL is an FP7 research project with 17 partners and 9 Mio Euro budget.