



New roles of CSOs for Inclusive Development

CBOs within the official development aid system in Kenya

The research project 'Towards inclusive partnerships: the political role of community based organizations and the official development aid system' investigates the factors that enable and constrain the political roles and potential of community based organizations (CBOs). It explores the operational realities within the official development aid (ODA) system in which the CBOs operate and analyses the 'chaos of urgencies' they face, including donor demands, economic emergencies and the social emergencies of members. This study will investigate the daily practices of two CBOs in Nairobi, Kenya that have significantly contrasting positions in the ODA system: one is fully integrated into this system, whereas the other receives small amounts of funding intermittently from local funders.

Main question	How do the different positions of two community based organizations in the official development aid system in Nairobi, Kenya constrain or enable fulfilment of their political roles and potential to contribute to economic and social justice and inclusive development?
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Consortium	VU University Amsterdam, British Institute in Eastern Africa, Radboud University Nijmegen in cooperation with Ghetto Foundation and Health Options for Young Men on HIV/AIDS/STI (HOYMAS)
Country focus	Kenya
Planned activities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conduct a literature review to understand the tensions within the concept 'community participation', as central to dominant understandings of CBOs within development discourse • Conduct empirical research using semi-structured interviews, network mapping, document analysis and participatory observation • Promote different knowledge collaborations between junior and senior academics, community researchers, and CBO staff • Train community members of the two CBOs in ethnographic research • Bring together community members from both organizations in a seminar to share outcomes and present a popularized book • Discuss the two policy briefs and the research report in a conference for local and international CBOs • Organize a conference for donor organizations, I/NGOs, government institutions (Kenya) to develop a social transformative strategy • Create a CBO-donor dialogue to discuss future strategies regarding the support of CBOs based on the research report • Highlight the difficulties and virtues of being a CBO in the contemporary funding world at an organized conference for Dutch donor organizations and relevant ministries • Compile peer-reviewed articles co-written in different configurations with consortium partners and research staff

