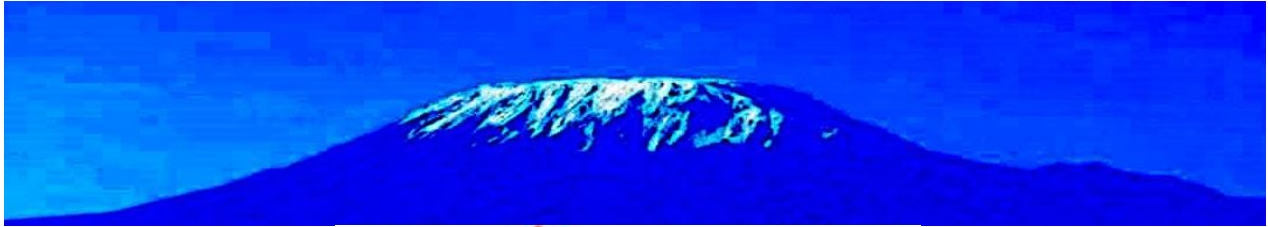


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Foreword from the chief editors

We are pleased to release Volume 1 issue 2 of Tanzania Journal of Community Development (TAJOCODE) containing six articles. The articles cover a variety of topics of relevance to the field and practice of community development. They focus on health, tourism, management, agriculture, and marketing. Community development interventions require a holistic approach. That is, one needs to examine communities from a three-dimensional approach to attain any useful results. The first article provides a Conceptual Framework to guide studies on Health Literacy, Health Behaviour and Healthcare Seeking Behaviour in Rural Settings in the Tanzanian context. Conceptual framework can serve very useful purposes when it comes to formulating research questions and developing hypotheses. The conceptual framework presented in this article emanate from a study conducted in rural settings in Mvomero district in Morogoro, Tanzania. The study assessed health literacy (HL) and its influence on health Behaviour (HB) and health care seeking behaviour (HCSB) as well as attitudes of people under One Health Approach (OHA). The conceptual framework is useful to those intending to conduct similar studies focusing on the connection between HL, HB and HCSB on the framework to be employed in studies of that nature. It informs on how health education and HL interventions can effectively lead to health behavioural change in the context of One Health Approach (OHA). Other studies can be conducted to assess HL in other areas of Tanzania and beyond using this conceptual framework. The framework is vital at this particular moment when the need for educating people to become more health literate is pertinent.

The second article presents the findings from an exploration of rural communities' response towards joining the improved Community Health Fund (iCHF). The study used Monduli Juu administrative Ward located in Tanzania. There are a number of efforts by the Tanzanian Government to promote accessible and equitable health services to deprived rural communities throughout the country. The government, among other things, has been mobilizing various stakeholders to contribute to the provision of health services to poor rural communities through community based health insurance schemes. However, the provision of health services, through community health insurance schemes, continues to face poor response from the intended beneficiaries. Using cross-section and Participatory Action Research (PAR) designs this study found that there are several issues that affect the extent of rural communities' response to joining the schemes. Lack of awareness and the prevalence of poverty among households have been proven to gravely block a number of households from joining the scheme. Rural communities have been hesitating to join iCHF and other health insurance schemes due to the lack of awareness on insurance concepts like risk pooling principle.

The third article focuses on Community Based Development and the Igbo Olodumare Tourist Centre, Okeigbo, Ondo State, Nigeria. Tourism has become a phenomenon in both developed and developing economies across the globe, owing partly to bizarre of income generation, employment creation and poverty elimination potentials; and exploring development variables associated with the intangible products. Tourism as a displacement activity involves being away from home on a temporary short-term visit to places of interest outside one's domicile and work. United Nation World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) however put a time limit of within a year of stay outside the environment other than your home either for business, leisure or other purposes to the definition of tourism. But strictly speaking, tourism encompasses the industry that package, facilitate, promote and delivered such travel and care for those on the move as well as the impact the visitors and host communities have on each other before, during and after the experience. However, insufficient attention to the historical aspects of developments is a set back to the challenges facing tourism development in Nigeria. One cannot say Nigeria is ready for international tourism because the populace has not yet prepare to accept the idea of having in their locality streams of foreign visitors as well as having to "sell" "market" aspects of their

culture, social life and the surrounding natural environments to tourists. While wide life and natural geomorphic features may be common to regions and countries, cultural activities represent the unique attractions that a country could preserve and promote for tourism. Unfortunately, our histories and culture have been little documented, let alone packed for tourism. A number of tourists cultural facilities also been designed through poor maintaining, management and misuse. A major weakness in Nigeria in preparation for cultural tourism is that culture is still very much foreign to the people. Tourism is seen as the exclusive pressure of the rich and affluent who can afford both the cost and time needed for trips. The Nigerian government and all other stakeholders should rise to their responsibility by giving all needed support to the tourism industry in Nigeria. It is well known that tourist facilities play a significant role in enhancing national development. In other words, if the facilities are put in place, it will serve as an element of development throughout the country.

Using the case of study of Research, Community and Organizational Development Associates (RECODA) –a local NGO in Tanzania-, the fourth article presents findings on communication management and stakeholder satisfaction in project-based organisations. Achieving stakeholder satisfaction in project-based organizations continues to rely on traditional communication channels in rural setting. The adoption of modern types of communication channels remains challenging proving that there is a long way before project officers use modern form of communication channels when handling rural community projects. Furthermore, some community members living in rural areas have not adopted the modern means of communication such as mobile phones. The study established that there are communication challenges that are caused by poor communication infrastructures, poor access to broadband services, and enable to access advanced gadget for communication. Due to the low livelihood, advanced forms of communication is not the major priority of many of the community members. Even though, the National ICT policy has to put an emphasis on the development of the necessary innovation capacity and instrument, such as ICT indicators, to monitor the impact of the policies on social and economic development.

The fifth article provides some insights on the determinants of the performance of Health Facility Governing Committees (HFGC) in Selected Primary Health Facilities in Tanzania. Lower- and Middle-Income Countries (LMICs) have introduced fiscal decentralization through various arrangements to empower Health Facility Governing Committees (HFGCs) and service providers to effectively manage health service delivery at the primary health care facilities. Together with this, the HFGCs have been anticipated to improve their performance in managing and controlling health service delivery. Focusing on Tanzania, this study was conducted to assess the determinants of HFGC's performance under the Direct Health Facility Financing Context (DHFF). In Tanzania, fiscal decentralization in primary health care facilities is implemented through Direct Health Facility Financing (DHFF) program. Under DHFF, funds from multiple sources such as basket funds and other intergovernmental transfers are directly deposited to the public primary health facility bank accounts. The Government of Tanzania decided to introduce the DHFF to ensure flexible timely funding at the level of service delivery points to ensure increased efficiency in financial use and quality service delivery to the public. According to DHFF implementation protocol, HFGCs mandates are to prepare facilities plans according to the community needs and preferences, to budget based on the available resources, participate in the procurement process and ensure funds are being used according to the budgets. This policy brief summarizes the determinants of HFGCs' performance in the implementation of DHFF in Tanzania from a recent study conducted in four selected regions in Tanzania. Through a cross-sectional research design, the study assessed the perceived determinants of the HFGCs performance under the DHFF context. Even though, the intergovernmental transfer should be timely made to health facilities to facilitate service

provision and help HFGCs to govern facility operations. Further, the policymakers should stipulate the specific functions and powers of each stakeholder including HFGCs in the process of governing health services provided to avoid duplication of responsibilities and powers.

The final article acknowledges the effects of socio-demographic factors on agricultural production and marketing in Ludewa District, Njombe. The importance of socio-demographic factors in different economic activities is vital information to policy makers and other stakeholders. This guides their decisions on the enhancement and engagement of human resources in developmental issues. In particular, socio-demographic factors are relevant determinants for agricultural production and marketing and therefore need to be enhanced. This is true not only in Tanzania but in all African countries and outside Africa. However, little empirical works have been done to assess the separate effects of farmers' socio-demographic factors on the crops' production and marketing aspects. Thus, the study conducted in Ludewa district used descriptive analysis to assess the relationship between socio-demographic factors and aspects of maize production/marketing. The main findings revealed that age, sex, education level, and experience are important determinants for both increased size of land grown with maize and marketing participation. The study recommends policies that will enhance the quality of human resources, including education for extension officers and other agencies to educate farmers in good farming practices, involvement of female and male farmers in both crops' production and marketing. Finally, the study advocates for policies that could enhance the marketing infrastructure for crops' produce to avoid exploitation of farmers by traders who buy produce at farm level and offer low price.

In sum, the articles in this volume suggest that community development remains holistic. That is, there is a need to undertake development interventions from a holistic approach. The government and other development stakeholders need to take bold steps to facilitate the attainment of community development goals.

Dr. Rasel M. Madaha (Sokoine University of Agriculture) and Dr. Regina Malima (The Open University of Tanzania)