

**Development Policy Management Forum  
Annual Report  
2009**



**Institutionalizing Democracy & Deepening Democratic  
Governance in Africa**

## **ACRONYMS**

<b>AAPS</b>	<b>African Association of Political Science</b>
<b>ACEG</b>	<b>African Centre for Economic Growth</b>
<b>AU</b>	<b>African Union</b>
<b>CODESRIA</b>	<b>Council for the Development of Social Research in Africa</b>
<b>DPMF</b>	<b>Development Policy Management Forum</b>
<b>FF</b>	<b>Ford Foundation</b>
<b>OSIEA</b>	<b>Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa</b>
<b>PANAFSTRAG</b>	<b>Pan-African Strategic Policy Research Group</b>
<b>UNECA</b>	<b>United Nations Economic Commission for Africa</b>
<b>UNHABITAT</b>	<b>United Nations Centre for Human Settlements</b>

## **A. The DPMF's Mission**

The Development Policy Management Forum (DPMF) is a Pan-African civil society organization based in Nairobi, Kenya. The DPMF specializes in applied social research for public administration and all aspects of governance and development. Since 1995 when it was founded, DPMF has conducted research and capacity building activities throughout the Africa, aimed at supporting democratic governance. The DPMF's research programme explores topical policy issues at the sub-regional and national levels. In the process DPMF develops partnerships and networks that help build knowledge and insight among policy makers, civil society and the academic community.

In 2009 DPMF researchers finalized their work on the first phase of the Land Policy Development & Governance project. Work also began on the second phase of the project. This second phase consists of in depth analyses of different aspects of the nexus between land, wealth accumulation and politics in Kenya. It is expected that this research will contribute to the on-going debate in Kenya over land policy and governance.

In February 2009, DPMF convened a conference on "Political Culture, the State and Governance in Africa". This innovative conference featured presentations and debate on a range of questions around political behaviour, democratization, state building and conflict in Africa.

The DPMF remains committed to its Pan-African mandate and during the General Assembly Meeting (GAM) held at the conclusion of the conference on political culture, the DPMF Board was re-newed with membership from all the regions of the continent. Throughout the year the DPMF participated in the activities of Pan-African institutions and networked with like minded civil society organizations in Africa and the rest of the world.

The DPMF's distinction is to help bridge the cultural and knowledge gaps between its three constituencies; policy makers, civil society and researchers. The exchange of knowledge facilitated by DPMF's research agenda and capacity building deepens their understanding of the complexities of democratic governance and democratic processes. In this way the DPMF encourages open debate about public policy.

In pursuit of its mandate the DPMF's activities can be categorized as follows:

1. Comparative Research
2. Policy Analysis of Development Issues
3. Sub-regional Capacity Building & Sensitization
4. General Policy Conferences
5. Publications

### **DPMF's Strategy**

The DPMF continues to develop its activities as a Kenyan and Pan-African think-tank.

The DPMF is distinguished by its critical approach to public policy analysis and its engagement with policy-makers and civil society. Moreover, by working with civil society the DPMF's activities serve to broaden the scope of informed public debate on the issues it highlights. Besides direct engagement the DPMF adds value to its research through a variety of dissemination channels. Thus choosing relevant and innovative research projects and methodologies and making its findings widely available, is central to the DPMF's vision and remain key future challenges.

## **B. Programmed Activities**

### **1. Land Policy, Development & Governance**

The Land Policy project which explores the political economy of land in Kenya, is concluding in March 2010. Launched in August 2007 the Land Policy project seeks to understand how the land has shaped processes of class formation, state consolidation and inter/intra-ethnic relations. The first component of the Land Policy project consisted of desk and field research undertaken in eleven districts in three provinces; Central, Rift Valley and Coast. The scope of the research reflects the complexity and specificity of land issues that have been highlighted in the forthcoming analytic report. In this regard the main contribution of this DPMF research to the literature on land policy in Kenya is its re-emphasis on the political economy of land governance institutions as a way to understand contemporary land issues in Kenya. During the course of 2009 a number of other activities were undertaken in support of the research including seminars and consultations with the Advisory Committee of the Land Policy Development & Governance project.

The second component of the Land Policy, Development & Governance project flowed naturally from the original project. This extension consisted of a series of elaborations on the theme of land policy and governance. The research focused on 4 sub-themes.

- Land Administration & Management
- Land & Urban Politics
- Land & Gender
- Special Case of Land in Lamu District

Work on these additional research topics will be concluded in February 2010.

## **2. Conference on Political Culture the State & Governance**

In February 2009, the DPMF organized a widely attended conference at the Silver Springs Hotel in Nairobi, Kenya on the theme of political culture and governance. More than 20 scholars from across the continent presented papers. The presentations generated wide-ranging discussion on the patterns of political behaviour which have become typical of post-colonial African states and their links to governance outcomes. The discussions touched on issues such as ethnicity, authoritarianism, separatism and corruption and their institutional basis. Thus the conference helped shed light on the context underlying current difficulties African states face to consolidate democracy. The scholars reflected that authoritarian reflexes continue to define the nature of political discourse while political exclusion remains the primary means by which power is consolidated and exercised. These illiberal characteristics of the political culture of modern Africa in turn reflect the salient and continuing influence of the colonial inheritance on the nature of African states. It was frequently argued that by manipulating and marginalizing traditional governance institutions a permanent gap was created between rulers and the ruled that persists to the present day. Thus the exercise of power became despotic and unaccountable; this continues to be the culture of authority.

A number of outputs from the conference are in progress including the conference report, the proceedings of the conference and a book based on selected papers from the conference.

## **3. Meeting of the General Assembly & the DPMF Board**

Immediately after the Political Culture conference, a General Assembly Meeting (GAM) was convened to consider the DPMF's strategic plan and its proposed activities for the subsequent years. The GAM also elected new members of the Board.

## **4. Publications**

The DPMF published the proceedings of the lecture series or 'Mijadala's' it conducted from 2006 to 2007 as part of the Social Policy Development & Governance project. The purpose

of the Mijadala was to provide a panoramic overview and critique of Kenya's social policy by social policy practitioners, scholars and representatives of the State and civil society

***Mijadala: A Discourse on Social Policy, Governance & Development in Kenya***

Abdalla Bujra (ed), DPMF, Nairobi 2009

The DPMF and CODESRIA published a series of papers focusing on the contextual politics and processes of regional integration on the African continent. This book is based on a conference jointly organized by DPMF and CODESRIA in Addis Ababa in 2009 and consists of 16 papers from distinguished African scholars.

***The African Union and new strategies for development in Africa***, Said Adejumobi and Adebayo Olukoshi (eds), DPMF & CODESRIA, 2009

The DPMF, PANAFSTRAG, UNECA and the AAPS also jointly published a book based on papers presented at the conference in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia organized by the DPMF and the GPAD/UNECA on the 26<sup>th</sup>-27<sup>th</sup> March 2006. The papers focused on current and potential roles of civil society and indigenous institutions in regional integration processes in Africa.

***Civil Society, Governance and Regional Integration in Africa***, Adekunle Amuwo, Hippolyt Pul & Iren Adadevoh (eds), DPMF & PANAFSTRAG, 2009

### **C. Non-Programmed Activities**

#### **1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Land Policy Advisory Committee Meeting**

The meeting in Panafric Hotel on the evening of the\_\_\_\_\_ was attended by a distinguished panel of scholars chaired by Prof. Shem Migot-Adholla. The participants included

Prof Shem Migot-Adhola	Chairman
Prof Abdalla Bujra	Executive Director DPMF
Dr Katumanga Musambayi	Lead Researcher
Mr Odenda Lumumba	Kenya Land Alliance
Mwenda Makathimo	Chairman, Institute of Kenyan Surveyors

The meeting covered the report of the researchers and provided guidance on further steps to improve the research product

#### **D. Board Members & Secretariat**

##### **DPMF STAFF**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Professor Abdalla Bujra	Executive Director
Dr Joy Kiiru	Programme Officer
Ms. Christine Wangari	Communications & Administrative Officer
Ms. Grace Waiganjo	Administrative Assistant
Ms. Zeinab Ibrahim Tetebe	Office Assistant
Ms Shamsa Agil	IT Consultant and Research Assistant
Ms. Leah Keriga	Research Assistant
Mr David Kinyanjui	Research Assistant
Mr Samuel Lando	Research Assistant
Mr Nicholas Odoyo	Research Assistant
Ms. Cynthia Allen	Part Time Accountant

##### **Consultant Researchers**

Dr. Musambayi Katumanga	Lead Researcher: Land Policy
Dr. Karuti Kanyinga	Lead Researcher: Land Policy
Dr Paul Goldsmith	Lead Researcher: Special Case of Lamu

## **DPMF Board**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Current Position</b>
Professor Sadig Rashid	Chairman, DPMF Board
Dr Frene Ginwalla	Vice Chancellor University of KwaZulu-Natal
Professor Ali Mazrui	Director, Institute of Global Cultural Studies Chancellor, Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology, Kenya
Professor Abdoulaye Bathily	Vice President, National Assembly, Senegal
Dr Hope Sadza	Executive Chairperson, Women's University In Africa-Zimbabwe
Ms. Turkia Ould Daddah	Commissioner, International Civil Service Commission, Mauritania
Professor Abdalla Bujra	Executive Director