

# Voluntary Local Review (VLR) of Kibaha Town Council

Sophia Mgoba, Kenny Manara



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Frontpage Photo: Community members during VLR consultation in Kibaha Town Council. Photo credit: Hildegarda Augustine Saudari (Focal Person from Kibaha Education Centre).

ISBN: 978-91-86725-63-1

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## List of Abbreviations

AIDS	Acquired immunodeficiency syndrome
CSOs	Civil Society Organisation
D by D	Decentralisation by Devolution
FYDP	Five Year Development Plan
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
ICLD	International Centre for Local Democracy
ICT	Information and Communication
KTC	Kibaha Town Council
LGA	Local Government Authority
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MDA	Ministries, Independent Departments and Agencies
MEOs	Mitaa Executive Officers
MoFP	Ministry of Finance and Planning
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organisation
O&OD	Opportunities and Obstacles for Development
PO – RALG	President’s Office – Regional Administration and Local Government
PMO	Prime Minister’s Office
PPP	Public Private Partnership
R.E.	Revised Edition
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
TZS	Tanzanian Shilling
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
VLR	Voluntary Local Review
VNR	Voluntary National Review
WEO	Ward Executive Officer

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## Abstract

This Voluntary Local Review (VLR) aims at understanding how well the SDGs have been localized and implemented in Kibaha Town Council (KTC), Tanzania. The process employed Community Based Participatory Research (CBPR) to represent local voices in a participatory and inclusive manner. The results show that localization of SDGs has helped the government and citizens to foster their cooperation in solving challenges encountered during implementation of SDGs. Citizens of KTC help the council in implementing SDGs through mobilizing local resources, capacity building; local monitoring, and participating in grassroots initiatives on SDG-related activities. Localization of SDGs was constrained by challenges such as financial limitation and lack of meaningful participation from key stakeholders. The review concludes by emphasizing the importance local monitoring of SDGs in promoting the co-production of knowledge through citizen's participation in decision-making.

## Acknowledgements

The preparation of Kibaha Town Council Voluntary Local Review has been successful by the help and support from the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) through their financial support and technical inputs. Sincere appreciation goes to University of Dar es Salam; Kibaha Town Council and Kibaha Education Centre for their administrative and management support throughout the VLR exercise. Great honour goes to Dr. Kenny Manara, Dr. Gelas Rubakula, Ms. Anita Lyoka, Ms. Hildegarda Saudari, as well as involved Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), Kibaha Town Council community members and students from Kibaha High School and Bundikani Secondary School.

## Preface



### By Johan Lilja, Secretary General, Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy

The mission of the Swedish International Centre for Local Democracy (ICLD) is to contribute to poverty reduction by promoting local democracy. In order to fulfil this, we promote and encourage decentralised cooperation through municipal partnerships programme; adding capacity-building through our international training programmes; and investing in relevant research and creating important research networks. ICLD documents and publishes key lessons learned from our ongoing activities, initiates and funds relevant research, engages in scholarly networks, connects relevant researchers with practitioners, and organises conferences and workshops.

We support the localization and implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals, including the development of Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) to trace progress at the local level. Sustainable development is only possible if it is just and equitable. Therefore, to make the greatest possible contribution to Agenda 2030, ICLD supports VLRs conducted with Community-based Participatory Research (CBPR), which assume specific methodologies to advance a bottom-up perspective and uplift the voices of marginalized groups. The reports – developed by researchers and local governments together – aim at simultaneously strengthening local governments' capacity to engage citizens and implement Agenda 2030, while innovating monitoring mechanisms to be more qualitative and capture the voice of the people they concern.

This report shows the measures Kibaha Town Council in Tanzania, engaged in a municipal part-

nership with Gotland, Sweden, has taken to advance education, gender equality and securing health and livelihoods, as well as roots remaining gaps in structural and technical challenges that persist. The process has been instructive to the local government about their way forward. The report is one of the outputs, but perhaps the most important result is that communities were asked, listened to, and empowered to participate in shaping their local reality.

My genuine opinion is, to fight poverty and reach the ambitious goals set out by Agenda 2030, change must be anchored at the local level by means of equity, participation, transparency, and accountability – and leave no one behind. I hope that this study can help Kibaha local government to improve their work as well as inspire others to explore participatory methods in research and policy-making.

Visby, Sweden



Johan Lilja,  
Secretary General, ICLD  
July 2023

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## Executive Summary

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, composed of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which sought to create a future global development framework to succeed the Millennium Development Goals. Accomplishing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is linked with a participatory process of involving multiple stakeholders, including citizens, in planning, implementation and monitoring. Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) are used at local government level to foster SDGs localization and demonstrate local governments' capacity and commitments. This VLR was conducted at Kibaha Town Council (KTC) with the aim of assessing KTC's progress in localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and how citizens and other social actors are involved in the implementation of the SDGs. Specifically, the VLR outlines the council's progress towards the SDGs no 5, 10, 11, 16 and 17 which were prioritized by citizens of Kibaha and the local government respectively. The VLR employed Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR), an approach which has been underscored as means of enhancing citizen participation, to allow inclusiveness in sharing ideas, decision making and empower communities by recognizing and valuing the unique strengths and perspectives of all members involved in the research process. The VLR highlights several successes in achieving the SDGs in Kibaha Town Council, including the improvement of partnerships for development, citizen engagement in implementing development initiatives at grassroots level, and integrating SDG agendas in the council's plans, programmes and policies. Community members are involved in implementating SDGs in different ways: by consultation, decision making, financial contribution, fellow community members' mobilization and sensitization about SDGs, making bylaws and policies and volunteering as source of labour in implementing local initiatives. Moreover, social actors at KTC have been involved in implementing SDGs through execution of different projects and programs that enhance socio-economic and political transformation for community members. In addition, the results show that KTC faces several challenges in implementing

the SDGs at the local level. Persistent challenges on a structural level include gender imbalance in political sector, socio-economic inequality, poor transportation facilities and -system, and poverty. Technical challenges include financial constraints, institutional capacity and unavailability of data. In overcoming these challenges, the VLR concludes that the prioritized SDGs should align with the needs of citizens and with existing resources, particular funds. A participatory and inclusive monitoring and evaluation mechanism should be developed to identify these priorities, and allow local communities members to participate in monitoring and evaluate the SDGs.

## Introduction

### The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Localization of the SDGs

In 2015, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted Agenda 2030 for Sustainable Development, composed of 17 Sustainable Development Goals, which sought to create a future global development framework to succeed the Millennium Development Goals. The outlined 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 development targets serve as the blueprint to achieve better and more sustainable future for all.

In Tanzania, local governments, including Kibaha Town Council (KTC) continue to oversee the day-to-day implementation of SDGs on behalf of the national government. Each SDG contains at least one target that is relevant for local government devolved roles and responsibilities (Fox and Macleod, 2021). In addition, OECD (2020) reported that 105 SDGs out of 169 require local action for them to be successful achieved. This means effective implementation of the SDGs requires a strong framework for multi-stakeholder engagement and coordination at all levels of governance, which is possible if both top-down and bottom-up approaches are used concurrently and harmonized. The process of SDGs localization is thus political and may not be driven by national nor local governments alone (Fox and Macleod, 2021).

As countries, including Tanzania, continue with implementation of SDGs, monitoring of the progress towards achievement of SDGs is imperative at all levels for identifying both positive and negative progress that can be strengthened and redressed respectively. Thus, United Nations (UN) adopted Voluntary Local Reviews (VLRs) to be used at local government level to foster SDGs localization and demonstrate local governments' capacity and commitments. Another way local governments play an important role in SDG implementation is to inform central governments' Voluntary National Reviews – reports on the progress toward SDGs.

Municipalities and councils are committed to mutual learning and horizontal cooperation among themselves which at the end played a very important role in the process in informing these national progress reports.

In the case of Tanzania, the decentralization-by-devolution (D-by-D) policy limits local governments' role to public service delivery while maintaining policymaking and quality assurance responsibilities within the central government's sector ministries (agriculture, education, health, water, social welfare, environmental management, etc.). This means the extent to which SDGs are localized is dependent upon the central policy-making dynamics rather than local planning processes. Following overriding power of Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs), local governments are more likely to comply with supply-side accountability mechanisms more than community-based monitoring mechanisms. In an attempt to overcome such procedural challenges, this VLR process institutes a strong advocacy component to raise awareness among central and local government actors on the importance of community-based monitoring of SDGs implementation that produce quality and reliable data from the grassroots level, based on the argument that all development is local (Saner, Saner-Yiu and Nguyen, 2019).

### Participatory monitoring

Citizen participation in monitoring of the SDGs is a measure of participatory democracy which puts more emphasis on the ideal of self-governance: the possibility that those affected by policy-making processes will be able to take part in and influence decisions being made (Biegelbauer & Hansen, 2011). In the context of SDGs monitoring, citizen's participation is critical because it contributes to the greater effectiveness of global governance. However, experience from urban Africa shows that limited resources, disconnections from national and urban policies of redistribution, and a local politics shaped by both clientelism and democratic reforms create a glass ceiling for what global models of citizen's participation are able to achieve. This suggests

that to improve demand-driven and short route of accountability in SDGs implementation, an uptake of social innovation models may be necessary. In addition, citizens get informed about what their government is doing through localization and implementation of SDGs. By knowing this, it builds trust, create sense of ownership towards development implementation.

Additionally, VLRs show diversity in formats in which VLR feeds information into VNRs across the globe. This should be expected given the lack of official guideline for local reporting to the High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on SDGs. For example, linked the lack of a local monitoring framework to a range of approaches developed or adapted to facilitate local monitoring of SDGs implementation. Simply put, the SDG monitoring approaches have not yet been defined, leaving stakeholders without appropriate guidance. A number of SDGs implementation monitoring approaches observed are either modified indicators sets or subnational adaptations of the VNR process.

Lastly, lack of local monitoring framework for SDGs implementation is a challenge because local governments generally limited to national development plans, while implementation mechanisms are often led at ministerial level. This indicates that given the prevalence of devolved public service delivery policy in most countries of the north and the south, local governments found themselves responsible for delivering many of the SGD targets by default. Hence, the purpose and opportunity of this report to not only feed the VNR and pass information upwards but also directly empower citizens at the local level and inform SDG implementation.

## Purpose

This VLR contributes to advancing progress on the SDGs by providing an up-to-date review of the capacity of Kibaha Town Council to implement SDGs and identify areas that weighed down their capacity for achievement. This can be achieved through reflection on SDGs implementation, and propose ways on how to tap the available opportunities and address the challenges so as to accelerate progress towards SDGs.

It informs the National Voluntary Review (VNR) through sectoral management information systems that are linked to mother Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) at the national level. Moreover, the VLR offers a chance for reflection on future SDGs implementation plan by using empirical data on current progress status to develop action plan for improving of performance level, transparency, accountability and citizen engagement. The goal of engaging citizens is to empower them to present their voices about progress made towards implementation of SDGs which promote citizens' trust and build the public support necessary to sustain them.

The overall objective of this VLR is to assess progress in implementing the SDGs in Kibaha Town Council City. Specifically, VLR was guided by the following objectives:

- i. To assess KTC advanced in terms localization of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to identify priority SDGs for KTC.
- ii. To assess how citizens and other social actors at the KTC are involved in the implementation of the SDGs
- iii. Communicate the perceptions of citizens and other social actors on SDGs implementation in the communities served by KTC

## Scope

Tanzania presented its first national report to the VNR conference in 2019 whereby it was identified that the country was not doing well in areas of climate change and poverty alleviation. The country then asked for more time to improve. Now the government has begun the second VNR to track the progress towards SDGs. The 2023 theme was to see how the country was rebuilding itself from the effects of the global Covid-19 pandemic, namely SDGs 6, 7, 9, 11, and 17. Initial discussion between the Institute of Development Studies (IDS) at University of Dar es Salaam (UDSM) and representatives from KTC; KEC and community members to ensure this provides complementary information but is based on local priorities, the following were the prioritized SDGs for VLR:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Goal 5: Gender Equality through their Gender Equality Project to assess the level of progress on achievement of project objectives</li> <li>ii. Goal 10: Reduce Inequalities through empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all</li> <li>iii. Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities through providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all</li> <li>iv. Goal 16: Focusing on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</li> <li>v. Goal 17: Examining the contribution of Municipal Partnership Projects and International Training Program financed by ICLD in promoting development at KTC</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Improving services and reduce HIV/AIDS infection</li> <li>ii. Enhancing, sustain and effective implementation of the National Anticorruption strategy</li> <li>iii. Improving access, quality and equitable social services delivery</li> <li>iv. Increasing quantity and quality of social services and infrastructure</li> <li>v. Enhancing good governance and administrative services</li> <li>vi. Improving social welfare, gender and community empowerment</li> <li>vii. Improving emergency and disaster management</li> <li>viii. Management of natural resources and environment sustained</li> </ul> |
|---|---|

## Kibaha Town Council Profile

Kibaha Town Council is one among the seven councils of the Coast Region (Pwani); it is also headquarters of the Region. It holds strategic importance as a prominent Tanzanian industrial area. With a total population of 265,360 individuals, Kibaha Town Council is home to 113,680 men and 151,680 women (National Census, 2022).

The Council has an estimated area of 750 square Kilometres and lies between latitude 6.8° South and longitude 38.2° and 38.5° East. It has 11 Wards, which are Tumbi, Mailimoja, Kibaha, Visiga, Mkuza, Kongowe, Misugusugu, Picha ya Ndege, Msangani, Mbwawa and Pangani and features a network of 73 streets. The Town experiences hot and sunny weather throughout the year, with maximum temperature in December while minimum temperatures occur in July.

The Vision of Kibaha Town Council is to be a council with conducive environment for investment and high quality service for sustainable development by 2025 through efficient use of available resources.

The Council has eight core objectives that are well aligned with Sustainable Development Goals. These objectives includes:

## Methodology

Kibaha Town Council VLR exercise was conducted through an inclusive and participatory process. Local government agencies engaged in the process includes the Kibaha Education Centre (KCE), KTC management, heads of departments and units, civil society organizations and non-governmental organization representatives. Other groups engaged in the process were community leaders, disadvantaged group of people, and secondary school students in the town of Kibaha area. The review addresses the progress and the status of all Sustainable Development Goals, particularly emphasis was given on five SDGs that were prioritized by the Kibaha Town Council namely SDG 5, SDG10, SDG11 SDG16 and SDG17.

### Research organisation

The VLR utilized a model based on partnership between researcher and local government, which is useful for mobilizing resources to produce the review and in contributing towards the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals and established town goals. Within the premises of bottom-up approaches that advocate for citizen's participation, knowledge is co-generated with citizens address the root causes of issues that affect the community and to bring sustainable positive transformation (Weaver as cited in Amauchi, Gauthier, Ghezalje, Giatti, Keats, Sholanke, Zachari & Gutberlet, 2022). Local government – university partnerships and co-production with citizens can thus create deeper understanding of the SDGs as a tool in support of local planning and budgeting and in producing local expertise that may improve SDG localization. Moreover, the town collaborates with other development partners including civil society organizations; non-government organization; international organizations to implement financing mechanisms and service delivery that balance the social, economic and environmental dimensions of sustainable development. In this regard, the following institutional arrangement in the form of division of responsibilities among partners were used during the VLR in KTC.

#### Responsibilities of IDS (Institute of Development Studies, University of Dar es Salaam)

- Research Clearance
- Desk Review and Preparation of research data collection Tools
- Data Collection
- Expert Validation
- Data Analysis and Report Writing
- Training/Workshop facilitation and mobilization
- Submission of Final Report

#### Kibaha Town Council's responsibilities

- Desk Review and preparation of research data collection tools
- Community Mobilization and Sensitization
- Facilitation on formulation of community social groups
- Data Collection and Validation
- Training/Workshop Facilitation
- Continuous tracking of project progress

#### Roles of community members

- Citizen Mobilization and Sensitization
- Formation of community social groups
- Data Collection
- Community Data Validation
- Participate on training and workshop
- Continuous tracking of project progress

The review applied a mixed methods approach in which both quantitative and qualitative. Quantitative data were obtained using a survey questionnaire that generated quantitative data on the level of community participation in implementation of SDGs and extent of their satisfaction on the progress made. In this case, community participation refers to the process of engaging and bringing out ideas from community members that enable them to make informed decisions through shared knowledge, skills and experience in addressing development issues and taking responsibilities that improve people's living conditions.

### Stakeholder mobilization

In Tanzania, citizen's participation is guaranteed by Article 21(2) of the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania of 1977 as amended in 2005, which states

that “every citizen has the right and the freedom to participate fully in the process leading to the decision on matters affecting him, his well-being or the nation” (United Republic of Tanzania, 2005). The existing legal and policy frameworks for participatory development in Tanzania have put in place direct democracy mechanisms, particularly village assemblies (VA) in rural areas and street/neighbourhood committees in urban centres (United Republic of Tanzania, 1998), participatory forest management (PFM) mechanisms such as community-based forest management (CBFM) teams (United Republic of Tanzania, 2001) as well as public service participatory management teams such as school committees (SCs), health facility management committees (HFMCs), water users associations (WUAs). Therefore, during VLR process the existing framework was used to coproduce local expertise in monitoring SDGs.

In total 15 stakeholder groups from civil society organizations, non-government organizations, academia, relevant KTC staffs, local community leaders and 354 local people in KTC were engaged through the VLR process.

All of these stakeholders were involved in order to allow data triangulation, prioritization, data generation and knowledge sharing from grassroots level to the highest level.

The questionnaire was administered to beneficiaries of four SDG-related projects jointly implemented by KTC with partners and community members. These are the:

- i. Gender Equality Project<sup>1</sup>
- ii. Together towards Sustainable Development Goals Project<sup>2</sup>
- iii. Kibaha Modern Bus Terminal<sup>3</sup>
- iv. Maili Moja Modern Market Project<sup>4</sup>

Simple random sampling technique was used to systemically select 100 respondents from each project making a total of 354 respondents for a cross-section survey partners to elicit their perceptions towards progress on SDGs implementation at KTC.

The table below represent the social demographic characteristics of community members who were consulted.

**Table 1: Socio demographic characteristics of community members**

Category	Frequency (n=354)	Percent
<b>Sex of respondents</b>		
Male	210	59.3
Female	144	40.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Education Level</b>		
No formal Education	26	7.3
Primary Education	37	10.5
Secondary Education	127	35.5
Vocational Education	92	26.0
Tertiary Education	75	21.2
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Occupation</b>		
Employed in the public sector	51	14.4
Employed in the private sector	73	20.6
Self employed	141	39.8
Not employed	87	24.6
Others	2	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>354</b>	<b>100</b>

1 <https://icld.se/en/partnership/kp-kibaha-gender-equity-project/>

2 <https://icld.se/en/article/region-gotland-och-kibaha>

3 <https://www.uncdf.org/article/5228/uncdf-supports-kibaha-bus-terminal-in-tanzania>

4 <https://kibahatc.go.tz/>



Qualitatively, the review employed four talking circles with four stakeholder groups namely (i) students under the Together Towards Sustainable Development Goals Project; (ii) community leaders from a sample of neighborhood chairpersons; (iii) representatives of marginalized groups from a sample of leaders of KTC's Economic Empowerment Fund; and (iv) community members from a sample of parent representatives in public schools. Community mapping was used to show SDG related activities, resources, problems and opportunities. In addition, a detailed desk review of the relevant literature and current situation was conducted (including the relevant official policy documents, Central Government and Town Council reports). These policy documents include the Council's Strategic Plan, Council's Budgets, and the Council's Annual Reports. The desk review also included case studies to identify good practices in terms of the implementation of SDGs.

## Policy environment and citizen engagement

### Policy and enabling environment

In order to promote implementation and localization of Sustainable Development Goals, Kibaha Town Council goes through an inclusive process to localize the SDGs to its Strategic Development Plan. The plan brought on board the Tanzania crosscutting policies, sectoral policies, the Tanzania Development Vision 2025, Long Term Perspective Plan (3FYDP), the Second Five Years National Development Plan (FYDP II 2016/17-2020/21) and the Medium-Term Strategic Planning and Budgeting Manual. The process mainstreamed Sustainable Development Goals into the plan as the new sustainable development agenda where each goal has specific targets to be achieved by 2023. Inclusion of SDG was imperative, as Tanzania is a state party to Agenda 2030 and thus committed to achieve the 17 goals by 2030. KTC's plan places prioritized targets in every key result area that establishes strategies and performance indicators in each department and section. The strategic plan provides, as well, monitoring and evaluation framework for the coming five years of its

implementation. This plan, therefore, offer continuous challenges before KTC management team towards realizing its thoughtful vision of being a Council with conducive environment for investment and high quality service for sustainable development by 2030.

### Community awareness

Community consultation in this research focused on understanding community members' awareness and perceptions on SDGs, how they have been involved in implementing and monitoring the goals, what they think about localization of SDGs and challenges for implementing and localizing the SDGs at the local level. Out of 354 community members who were consulted, 52% are aware about SDGs while 48% are not. Awareness here refers to knowing the existence of Agenda 2030 and its SDGs. Most of the community members were aware of SDGs no 1, 2, 4, 5 and 3 because they focus directly on their basic needs and wants. The least awareness was among SDGs no 14, 15, 16 and 17.

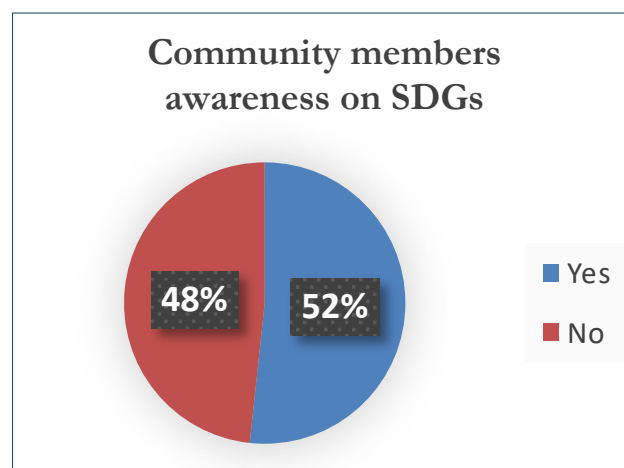


Figure 1: Community members' awareness on SDGs.

Local and international reporters including social media, TV, radio have been reported to be a source of information where community learn about SDGs, followed by NGOs and CSOs.

Most community members had positive attitude on localization of SDGs. Focus groups participants believed that it is necessary to localize SDGs because

of the following reasons:

- i. *“It will help to solve the specific problems in the sound will reduce the risk of the poor people not getting their basic needs”.*
- ii. *“Localization creates sense of ownership and sustainability”.*
- iii. *“Localization means more opportunity for accountability and transparency which all community members need”.*
- iv. *“It is important to localize SDGs because they are the focal point where community members can interact with their leaders and present their needs”.*

## Mapping the priorities of the local government and stakeholder communities

### Local Government Priorities

Kibaha Town Council is focusing on 5 core areas which each correspond to an SDG: i) gender equality (SDG 5); (ii) reducing inequalities through empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all (SDG 10); (iii) sustainable cities and communities through providing access to safe, affordable, accessible and sustainable transport systems for all (SDG 11); (iv) promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development (SDG 16) and (v) partnership for goals (SDG 17). There are several development programmes implemented in relation to these goals. These programmes include (i) Together towards Sustainable Development Goals Project; (ii) Kibaha Modern Bus Terminal; and (iii) Maili Moja Modern Market Project; (iv) Gender Equality. These projects are implemented with a goal to transform the life of community members socially, economically and politically. For example, Kibaha Modern Bus Terminal has promoted new demand for goods and services, attracted new businesses and provided new jobs for Kibaha residents. Together towards Sustainable Development Goals<sup>5</sup> focuses on building capacity among students for them to be champions of SDGs to the society.

### Local communities' priorities

Local communities' priorities were slightly different from that of the local government. Local communities

share the same interest with local government with goals 5, 10 and 11 related with (i) reducing inequalities through empowering and promoting the social, economic and political inclusion of all (ii) gender equality and (iii) sustainable cities and communities. However, the priorities of community members are (i) No poverty (SDG 1), (ii) Quality Education (SDG 4), (iii) Clean Water and Sanitation (SG 6), and (iv) Good health and wellbeing (SDG 3). This was testified during a focus group discussion:

***“You know most of Kibaha residents are poor, and some of them are middle income class... so we are all struggle to fight against poverty by using available economic opportunities to meet our needs including water, food, good health and send our children to school.”***

Community member

Despite the fact that citizens are struggling to fight against poverty, they still believe the government has an important role in helping them to fight against poverty. In this case, they are willing to support the government public services delivery that will help them to get adequate services. The support includes financial or non-financial contributions in building schools, health centres or administration offices.

### Leaving no one behind

Key principles in implementing the SDGs include including leave no one behind, gender equality, participation and accountability. Leaving no one behind is the most important principles of SDGs. In this context, for Kibaha Town Council compose of environment that will help in fighting against inequalities and build people's personality and potential that will allow them to empower themselves. It also means that those who are furthest behind and most excluded must be prioritised for necessary action, and every person should have a fair opportunity in life to enable them to reach their full potential. In order to achieve it, Kibaha Town Council provide financial aid of 10% loan from council internal source of revenue to specific groups which are women, youth and people

<sup>5</sup> This project is done in the framework of a municipal partnership with Region Gotland in Sweden. The partnership receives funding for peer learning from ICLD.

with disabilities. In addition, during development planning process, they make sure people with special needs have been represented. In addition, the council implements in a participatory decentralized system of service delivery which is empowering and provide room for participation of different stakeholders at different levels, street, ward, council to district and national in a coordinated approach. These participatory principles are integrated across the all level of plans and programs in KTC to ensure inclusiveness at level.



Figure 4: Citizens with special needs consultation during VLR process

## Citizen engagement

### Organization stakeholders

Organizations were mobilized in order to understand goals priorities and budget allocated to SDGs based on the organization objectives. Kibaha Town Council has the total of 35 NGOs and CSOs which they work together to implement SDGs. During the VLR process, 15 organizations, which is 43%, were able to be reached out of 35 organizations. This was due to poor cooperation among other organizations and interaction of other activities. Most of the organizations are implementing SDGs no 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 13, 16 and 17 with specific budget allocated to them. The budget allocated for implementing SDGs varies from one organization to another depend on the source of funds. For instance for the KTC annual budget allocation declined from 4,834,233,839.92 in 2021/22 to 4,552,561,120 TSH for 2022/2023, while one the NGO the budget decrease from 36,363 USD to 34634 USD from 2019to 2022. This indicates financial limitation for implementing SDGs.

### Community stakeholders

Most of the community members are being involved in implementing SDGs in one or several of the following ways:

- i. Contributing with financial assistance at the local level where different development projects are implemented. For example, most health and education programmes are initiated by community members themselves then the government put their hand by contributing the remaining amount to complete the desired project. This is where the applicability of opportunities and obstacles to development is seen. In addition, community members contribute to building offices for their local community leaders at ward level so that they can get services at good environment. This was supported by one of the community members from Kongowe Ward who said, *"This office that you are seeing we are building, is due to funds obtained from citizens"*. This has made citizens think and



believe that development can happen if people are willing to participate voluntarily in implementing development initiatives without putting a huge burden to the government.



Figure 2 : Ward Office built by citizen themselves

- ii. Entrepreneurs who own different kind of businesses have been involved direct based on the goods and services they provide. Those who own schools are considered to implement goal no 4, owners of private hospitals implement goal number no 3, etc.
- iii. Community members also implement SDGs through being consulted on how to start and implement projects. Most of projects are initiated through needs assessment and situational analysis which are conducted by community members. *“We are usually consulted by different project initiators before they introduce any development goals in our ward. So they usually take consideration on our ideas”* said one of the community members.
- iv. Students who are part of an SDG project related to education are implementing SDGs through getting education, acting as role models and champions to the society in creating awareness of SDGs and educating fellow students within school and outside school.
- v. Citizens are participating in implementing SDGs through monitoring and evaluation of their ward’s development plan objectives. In relation to finance,
  - in understanding sources of revenue and expenses, and providing information they will help promote transparency and accountability among local leaders.
- vi. Volunteerism in development projects. Community members report on their involvement in implementing SDGs through volunteering workforce and materials needed to accomplish desired development intervention.



Figure 3: Community consultation during VLR process

## SDG implementation

### SDG 5: Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls.



In this goal, target 5.5 was selected as prioritised by communities and Local Government. This target aims at ensuring full and effective participation of women and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision making in politics. The target can be achieved by promoting women's participation in political leadership and representation in politics at national parliaments, local governments, and other managerial positions.

Kibaha still faces gender inequality especially in the decision-making bodies. The problem of gender inequality varies from political to managerial position. Currently, the full council has 22 councillors of which 27.3% are women (6) and 72.7% (16) are men. Among these 6 are women: 5 from special seats and 1 elected. At the lower level of administration and governance the scenario is the same. Kibaha Town Council has 73 streets of which 7 (9.6%) are headed by a woman chairperson. This indicates that here is still a lot to be done to achieve gender balance for all women in the council. This was also reported by community members during interviews as follows:

***“Women ourselves we are the problem... we don't take chances that are presented to us. You can see during period of general election few women can dare and try to contest in various positions compare to men... Hence the gap will always be there”***

Key informant

***“Women have a lot of accumulative issues to handle and take care family issues, economic issues etc...They cannot participate full and effective in responsibilities that are given... For instance in our street, we have women in management body but most of the time we only see men are the one whom we interact with... so we see no reason to have them in leadership”.***

Male community member

***“Myself I see women, we don't support each other on empowering overserve by discouraging each other. You can see a woman telling a fellow woman you can't compete with men my friend”.***

Female community member

These perceptions indicate that most women are afraid to take political opportunities that are in front of them due different reasons. Among of the reasons presented include existence of gender stereotypes, social acceptance that a woman can lead same as man, lack of self-confidence, shortage of time as the results of many responsibilities within the society and family and economic factor particularly financial dependence to men.

In order to address this problem, various initiatives are in place. For instance, The Gender Equality Project through ICLD's Municipal Partnership Programme is seen as one of the initiatives bringing about an equal society by building capacity among different stakeholders like the Kibaha Town Director, Kibaha Town Management Team, Kibaha Town Councillors, Mtaa chairperson, MEOs, WEOs, Kibaha Women Economic Forum Leaders, Kibaha Entrepreneurs through workshops and other activities. Although different community empowerment workshops have been done, more education is needed because most of Kibaha's men believe that women are incapable of leadership.

### SDG 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries



Target 10.2: Empower and promote the social, economic and political inclusion of all, irrespective of age, sex, disability, race, ethnicity, origin, religion or economic or other status. This target was relevant to the community and

local government because they both believe that sustainable development cannot be achieved without reducing inequality among people in the society, particularly income inequality.

The comprehensive data on proportion of people living below 50 per cent of median income, by sex, age

and persons with disabilities is not available for the Town council. In order to achieve this goal, the council implement the policy of giving loan to women, youth and people with special needs from 10% of its revenue. Up to mid-2023 more than 800 of women, youth and special needs people were given these loans. However, during focus group discussion, one of the special needs representatives said:

***“Yes we know we have this opportunity to get loan to improve our lives economically, however we are not benefit from them... We are not getting them on time, sometimes they even ask for your condition how you can pay back the loan”.***

Focus group participant

This indicates that there are still inequalities among community members. To address this KTC should form a favourable financial mechanism that will favour special needs citizens. Financial mechanism may include funding the right people without involving the third party.

Other inequalities people see apart from income inequality, include social inequalities related with allocation of social services. There are differences in terms of availability and quality of social services such as roads, water; hospitals provided between places where the high- and middle-income residents live compared to low-income residents. This has resulted in persistence of unequal development among community members of KTC. In order to address this problem, community emphasis KTC to put more efforts in improving social services delivery to places where most of low-income residents live.

### **SDG 11: Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**



Target 11.2: Proportion of population that has convenient access to public transport, by sex, age and persons with disabilities.

The council priorities are based on promoting good transport system.

Currently the Kibaha Town Council has accessible road

to all but most of them are earth road, so they need to be upgraded to tarmac road. The local authority established strategies to maintain the roads and streets in a state of good repair. In addition, the council have allocated funds to improve local roads, drainage systems, local markets, and environment. However, the current public transport system does not consider how persons with disabilities can access. There is no specific transport for them hence most of time they must use the available transport which does not serve their purposes. The new bus stand has some facilities such as seats, public toilets, and stairs built in their considerations. Nevertheless, people are not feeling safe with the Modern Bus stand location particularly during nighttime. This was also reported during one of the interviews with respondents as follows:

***“During night hours, this place is not safe... you can see there are a lot of bushes, hence a lot of robbery incidences have been reported.”***

Female interviewee

***“Most of the time during night hours it is very difficult to access public transport in this stand unless you go to another place.”***

Female interviewee

This calls for further action by the council to ensure people are feeling safe and ensure availability of the transport system at all times with consideration to people living with disabilities.

### **SDG 16: Peaceful and inclusive societies**



Goal 16 is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels. Here, the focus is on Target 16.3: Promote the rule of law at the national and international levels and ensure equal access to justice for all people.

This target recognizes the concept of rule of law for the mechanism, process, institution, practice, or norm that



supports the equality of all citizens before the law, secures a no arbitrary form of government, and more generally prevents the arbitrary use of power. By recognizing this we achieve a peaceful society and promoting human rights.

There are different forms of violence experienced by citizens at Kibaha, but gender-based violence are among of the top cases reported at Kibaha Town Council. Women are more likely to be victims than men. The number of reported cases of violence against women increased from 20% in 2020 to 32% in 2021 and increase to 42% in 2022.

Kibaha Town Council has been making sure that these legal and justice institutions are available and well functioning according to the rules and regulations. The justice institutions are arbitration councils (at ward levels), police posts, district courts, social welfare office and gender desk. These institutions are available at all levels of administration from Street to Council level to make sure that citizen can access justice services. However, some of the institutions are not working 24 hours per day hence make difficult for citizens to access services nearby. This was reported by one of the community members:

***“Since our police post is small, it only open during day time up to late evening around 08:00pm. So when you face any problem after that period of time you will have to make a trip to police central at headquarters which sometimes is very difficult”.***

Focus group participant

This is an alert of the need to consider availability of these services all the time regardless of institution location. Another mentioned challenge was about citizens not reporting important incidences of violence. This situation obstructs the availability of accurate data for better planning and decision making on how to end violence. As one the key informants said: *“Many people are not reporting cases as they are supposed to do. They usually take law and action on their hands”.* This indicates that official institutions depend on community members to be a primary source and responsible for reporting issues that will enhance a better system for promoting rule of law and ensure equal access to justice for all people.

To address these challenges, the capacity of low-level justice institutions should be strengthened financially, human resource-wise, in terms of expertise and in office infrastructures. This will help them be effective in addressing cases presented to them, and facilitating the discovery of cases. Citizens should be educated on both importance of reporting their problems to the right mechanisms and negative impacts on not reporting such incidences. Moreover, protecting the rights of disabled people such as women, special needs people and older people should be one of the most prioritised of the strategic development plan. All measures need to be monitored and evaluated regularly.

## **SDG 17: Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**



Target: 17. 16 Global Partnership

Kibaha Town Council has promoted international cooperation as a way to ensure sustainable implementation of SDGs. The council has signed different

Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with organizations for partnership in various socio-economic programs. For instance, Kibaha Town Council, Kibaha Education Centre and Regional Gotland has a long time Partnership. Through this partnership, several projects were implemented such as Water Management project, Solid Waste Management Project, Culture Project, Gender Equality Project and Together Towards SDGs. The last two projects are still being implemented. Four groups from Kibaha have participated in International Training Programmes, of which three individuals on Public Financial Management and Local Economic Development Project, three on Gender Equality Project and three on Municipal Financing Supporting Local Democracy and Development Project. Beneficiaries of these programs have learned that partnership for Sustainable development have played important role in building local government capacity and assist with council services. Through learning about others' strategies to implementing SDGs, they have managed to achieve some of the council objectives such as improving public services

delivery through principles of equitability; participation; and transparency. In addition, at the community level, the introduction of SDGs Champions, made possible through the municipal partnership, act as catalysts for advocating, promoting and creating awareness of the SDGs within the community. Members of SDGs Clubs at schools have been able to create awareness of SDGs among students and to the community through different clubs activities such as campaigns and community services.



Figure 5: Students who are beneficiaries of partnership project between KEC and ICLD at Kibaha Secondary School

## Effects of the Voluntary Local Review

The role played by Local Government in implementing SDGs cannot be underrated. Local governments act as a bridge between citizens, central governments and development partners due to its critical role of setting and implementing development plans, monitoring and evaluate results while engaging local communities. Therefore, this chapter reflects on how the VLR process interacts with Kibaha Town Council's localisation and implementation of SDGs.

### Community awareness of KTC's SDG efforts

In order to understand different efforts and strategies made by KTC in implementing SDGs, the community members around KTC were asked about their awareness SDGs. As presented on Fig 1, most community members were aware of SDGs. However, the awareness was higher on SDGs related to activities such as development projects in social services (education, health, water, and constructions of roads) rather than the term SDGs itself. The results were in line with community awareness of efforts done by KTC in implementing SDGs, as presented in Table 2. The overall effort which was reported by 90.2% of the respondents was the effort related with ensuring provision of social services to communities in a sustainable manner. They were also aware of efforts to promote social and economic development, as reported by 87.8% of respondents. These are in line with KTC Strategic Plan which underscores the importance of promoting social and economic development of its citizens through improved socio-economic services. In addition, KTC is putting more efforts in providing democratic and accountable governance for local communities through delegation of authority at lowest level, i.e. ward executive officers, mtaa chairpersons and local ambassadors. This helps the lower level of authority to make decisions in important development issues without depending on or waiting for local government.

Table 2: Respondents' awareness of efforts made by KTC in implementing SDGs

Category	Frequency
<b>Efforts made by KTC in implementing SDGs</b>	
Providing democratic and accountable government for local communities	135 (65.9%)
Ensuring the provision of social services to communities in a sustainable manner	185 (90.2%)
Promoting social and economic development	180 (87.8%)
Nurturing a safe and healthy environment	37 (18.0%)
Looked for financial support from development partners/donors	15 (7.3%)

## Localization of Sustainable Development Goals at KTC

Localization of SDGs at KTC can be viewed in two aspects. The first aspect is related with the process in which the local government integrates SDGs in their defined plans and strategies to achieve desired goals, objectives and outcomes. The second aspect is about monitoring SDG progress as local or participatory monitoring, i.e. citizens should monitor implementation of SDGs themselves. All respondents in this VLR agreed

that localization at local level is very important because the government will be able to focus on the needs of people in relation to development and will help the government and citizen to foster their cooperation in solving different challenges encountered during implementation of SDGs. Furthermore, it was also noted that citizens at KTC help the council in implementing SDGs through mobilizing local resources, capacity building and participate in initiatives of grassroots institutions in SDG-related activities as presented in Table 3.

Table 3: Community perception on localization and implementation of SDGs

Category	Frequency (n=354)
<b>Community perception on localization of SDGs</b>	
Very necessary	162 (45.8%)
Necessary	192 (54.2%)
<b>Activities or programs which community contribute to achieve SDGs</b>	
Promote peer-to-peer learning	169 (47.7%)
Exchange good practices and information	129 (36.4%)
Conduct capacity-building, awareness raising and/or communication campaigns.	277 (76.8%)
Participation initiatives of grassroots institutions in SDG-related activities	198 (55.9%)
Mobilize local resources	261 (73.7%)
Alignment of local development plans	66 (18.6%)
Citizen participation	125 (35.6%)
Needs assessment	38 (10.7%)
<b>Significant benefits for localizing SDGs</b>	
Solve the actual problems in the community	267 (75.4%)
Create more opportunities for local socio-economic development	291 (82.2%)
Gain more knowledge and capability for sustainable development	291 (83.6%)
Interlinkages with various stakeholders (public, private, and people)	77 (21.8%)

Localization of SDGs at KTC goes hand by hand with local monitoring. In order to ensure local people are participating in tracking progress of development goals, KTC makes sure local leaders from wards conduct quarterly meetings with their respective citizens. The quarterly meeting at local level citizen to be aware on how well they are doing; challenges encountered and how to solve related challenges as far as development interventions are concerned.

Since this VLR focused on representing the voice of people (with its use of community-based participatory approach), citizens were asked about their awareness of voluntary local reviews of SDGs. 53 % of respondents were aware that SDGs are tracked to understand progress made. This was supported in one of the interviews with respondent who said:

***“Every three months we are been informed by our local leaders about time, venue and date when will be having our quarterly meetings... Selected individuals usually walk in our streets and announce the information using a mic.”***

Interviewed community member

KTC regularly shares information and report on the SDGs implementation (see fig. 6). KTC uses different ways when sharing information about SDGs. The ways includes social medias, television, new papers, radio programs and local meetings. This underscores the importance of using different means of communication in disseminating information as reported by respondents as follow:

***“You know us as youth we are usually busy with social medias such as instagram, facebook etc... so I have follow Instagram account of KTC (kibaha\_town\_council) where I get to know what is going on”.***

Interviewed community member

***“Through listening to radio and television programs I get a lot of information on development issues happening at Kibaha”.***

Interviewed community member

***“Our council sometimes use campaigns to share information and represent matters concerning our development. Recently there were campaigns on how to end gender-based violence among children and women which was very important”.***

Interviewed community member

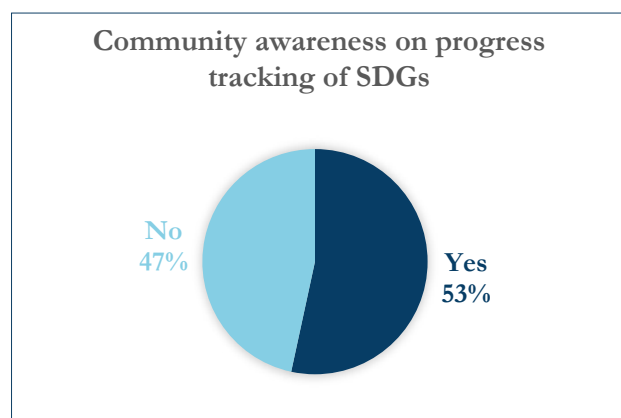


Figure 6: Community awareness on progress tracking of SDGs

However, 47% of respondents were not aware of tracking progress of SDGs. Among the reasons mentioned for this matter the use of inappropriate means of communication to channel information, nature of people living in cities area been busy with their staff, or poor relationship between local leaders and citizens. These results reflect more initiatives to be done to involve citizens in local monitoring of SDGs. Moreover, participation of community members can enhance SDGs monitoring by promoting public engagement horizontally in the co-production of knowledge (e.g., volunteering with local data and knowledge) as well as vertically, through citizen's participation in decision-making. Such participatory monitoring mechanisms can produce data that could be included in VLRs and VNRs and should be seen as complementary but not subservient to the review process.

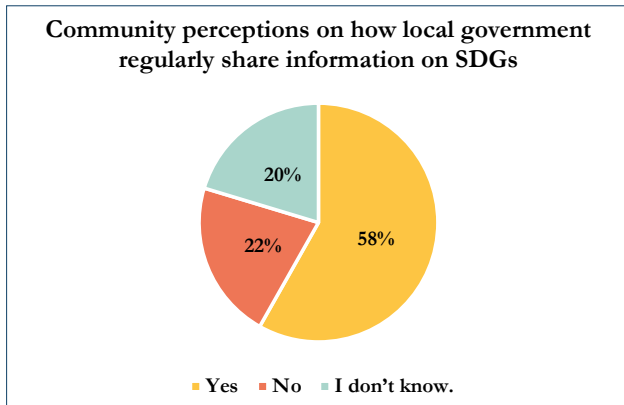


Figure 7 : Community perceptions on how local government regularly share information on SDGs

### Voluntary Local Reviews and Accountability

Overall, respondents agreed that a Voluntary Local Review of the SDGs at the local government level can help improve implementation and accountability. This implies that community members understand the importance of VLRs as a way of supporting transparency and accountability towards local communities through

identifying priority areas to act, funding and promoting for monitoring local initiatives. One of the survey respondents said that “VLR is the means for sharing experiences, challenges and lessons learnt on implementation of SDGs and help to come with strategies to address any current shortcomings”. This shows VLR as an important process for engaging in communities in by strengthening the accountability and inclusiveness of their decision making, capacity building and empowerment.

With the importance of VLR in enhancing implementation of SDGs, community members at KTC had shown willingness to participate and contribute in VLR (see fig. 9). Their willingness implies participatory monitoring is important not only to high level of governance but also at community level. Additionally, promoting ownership among community members by informing citizens about SDGs progress and identify obstacles hindering local progress while providing room for improvement supports the sustainability of development projects.

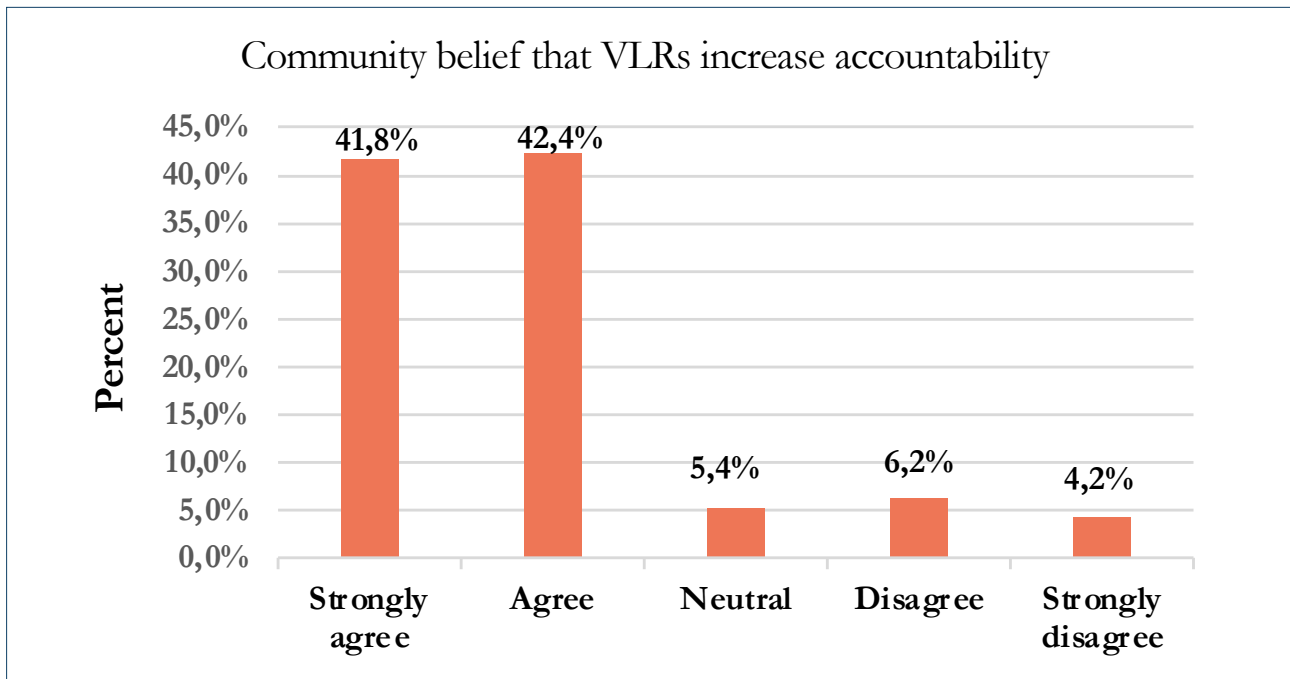


Figure 8: Community belief that VLRs increase accountability



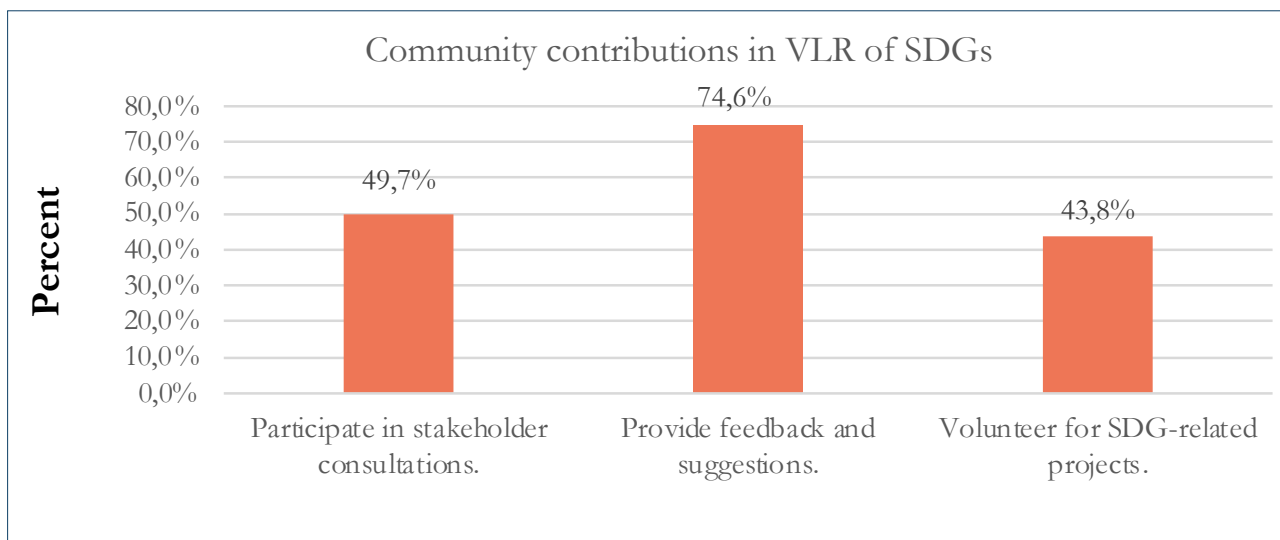


Figure 9: Community contributions in VLR of SDGs

## Summary, conclusions and recommendations

Localizing SDGs is helped by community participation in tracking progress of development interventions. Citizens have been mobilized to track progress by attending in quarterly community meetings within their respective areas. Through these meetings, community members get information on development agendas, including financial status of their LG's revenues and expenses, and progress made in development projects. This enables the community to identify challenges that hinder their progress and come up with solutions which are usually checked by local community leaders and LG officers. The council should come up with mechanisms that will enable citizen to participate directly in implementing and monitoring the SDGs, beyond these meetings. While developing a functioning engagement mechanism, awareness of SDGs should be raised among citizens of Kibaha. The following section elaborates different means and strategies which KTC use to implement SDGs.

### Financial Resources

Financial resources are not always enough hence Kibaha Town Council is making efficient use of its own sources of revenue and external source of

revenue from Central Government and development grants. The council has shown its commitment by allocating a specific portion of its budget towards SDG implementation. Through this commitment, the council is able to get financial and technical assistant from private partnership such as NGOs, CSOs and private entrepreneurs. Lastly, voluntary local financial contributions by community members are very crucial for in supporting KTC to achieve prioritized SDGs.

### Partnerships and Inclusiveness

Involving multiple stakeholders is part of the strategy to implement SDGs at Kibaha Town Council. The council believes that without a collaborative effort, that involves its citizens, other stakeholders throughout the council and outside the SDGs cannot be implemented. Hence, the council is making efforts mobilize different stakeholders who have interest in tackling SDGs making its vision and mission realism. The council takes initiatives to make sure no one is left behind, particularly paying attention to disadvantaged groups (women, children, youth and disabled people) by making different policies and laws that favour them economically, socially and politically.



## Community sensitization and awareness of SDGs

Implementation of SDGs cannot happen without awareness of SDGs among community members and council staff. Kibaha Town Council contributes to the promotion of the SDGs by sensitizing across the council and in the community. The council believes that the more people who know about and support the goals, there is a greater chance for council to achieve them.

## Conclusion

For implementation and localization of SDGs at grassroots level to be successful, proper prioritisation of the SDGs is crucial. The prioritized SDGs should align with the needs of citizens and existing resources and funds should be adapted to that reality. Insufficient resources for implementation of goals and actions would result in inefficiency of actions. Hence, the council should make more commitments to create good environment that will foster partnerships for development.

The next step for Kibaha Town Council is to formulate SDGs principles that will be used by both highest and lowest level of administration. Furthermore, the council should develop a mechanism to reach community members for creating more awareness on SDGs. Additionally, participatory and inclusive monitoring and evaluation mechanism should be developed to allow local communities members to participate in monitoring and evaluate the SDGs. Specifically, the council should make sure SDGS data is available preferable online for making better informed decisions.

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## Annex 1

### Questionnaire for Local Voluntary Review of Sustainable Development Goals at the Community Level

#### A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Name of respondent.....
2. Sex of respondent..... [1= Male, 2= Female]
3. Marital status of respondent.....
  - Married
  - Single
  - Divorced
  - Others (specify).....
4. Level of education of respondent .....
  - No formal education
  - Primary education
  - Secondary education
  - Tertiary education
5. Employing sector of the respondent
  - Employed in the public sector
  - Employed in the private sector
  - Self-employed
  - Not employed

#### B. LOCALIZATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF SDGs AT COMMUNITY LEVEL

6. Are you aware/familiar with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations?
  - Yes
  - No
7. How aware are you of the SDGs? ) (more than one answer)
 

<input type="checkbox"/> No Poverty	<input type="checkbox"/> Climate Change
<input type="checkbox"/> Zero Hunger	<input type="checkbox"/> Life below the water
<input type="checkbox"/> Good Health and Well-Being	<input type="checkbox"/> Life on land
<input type="checkbox"/> Quality Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Peace justice and strong institution
<input type="checkbox"/> Gender Equality	<input type="checkbox"/> Partnerships for goals
<input type="checkbox"/> Clean Water and Sanitation	
<input type="checkbox"/> Affordable and Clean Energy	
<input type="checkbox"/> Decent Work and Economic Growth	
<input type="checkbox"/> Industry, Innovation, and Infrastructure	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduced Inequalities	
<input type="checkbox"/> Sustainable Cities and Communities	

**8. Where did you learn about the SDGs?** (more than one answer)

- National Local governments associations (ALAT) or international local governments networks (UCLG Africa, Citynet, etc.)
- Ministries, Departments, and Agencies (MDAs)
- Development partners/donor agencies
- Academic/Research institutes
- CSO/NGOs
- Local and/or international news reporters (i.e., TV, social media, etc.)
- Others (please specify.....)

**9. What are the top three SDGs that should be prioritized for your village/ward?**  
.....**10. How do you think these priorities align with the needs and aspirations of your village/ward?**  
.....**11. Are you aware of any efforts made by your local government to implement the SDGs?**

- Yes (go to question no. 4.1)     No     I don't know.

**12. If YES in QN 9, what are those efforts?** (more than one answer)

- Providing democratic and accountable government for local communities
- Ensuring the provision of social services to communities in a sustainable manner
- Promoting social and economic development;
- Nurturing a safe and healthy environment;
- Looked for financial support from development partners/donors
- Others (please specify.....)

**13. How are you involved in implementing the SDGs in your community?**  
.....  
.....  
.....**14. Through which activities or programs does your community contribute to achieving SDGs?** (more than one answer)

- Promote peer-to-peer learning
- Exchange good practices and information
- Conduct capacity-building, awareness raising and/or communication campaigns.
- Participation initiatives of grassroots institutions in SDG-related activities
- Mobilize local resources
- Alignment of local development plans
- Citizen participation
- Needs assessment
- Others (please specify.....)

**15. What are the significant benefits for community members to be involved in implementing SDGs? (More than answer)**

- Solve the actual problems in the community
- Create more opportunities for local socio-economic development
- Gain more knowledge and capability for sustainable development
- Interlinkages with various stakeholders (public, private, and people)
- Others (please specify.....)

**16. What are your perceptions on SDGs implementation in your community?**

.....

.....

.....

**17. In general, what do you think about the localization of SDGs in your community (only one answer)**

- Very necessary
- Necessary
- Less necessary
- Not necessary at all
- I don't know

Reasons: .....

.....

.....

**18. What are the main challenges for implementing and localizing the SDG at the local government level (more than one answer)**

- Financial limitation
- Lack of meaningful participation from stakeholders (i.e., NGOs, private sector, etc.)
- Limited national government support
- Limited local interest
- Availability of SDG data
- Others (please specify).....

**19. What are your suggestions on how to enhance community participation and engagement in SDG-related activities?**

.....

.....

.....



**C. COMMUNITY GRASSROOTS INITIATIVES**

**20. Are there any community-led initiatives or projects related to the SDGs in your village?**

- Yes
- No

If yes, please describe the initiatives and their impact on the village.

Initiatives	Initiative Description	Levels of impact 1. Very High 2. High 3. Moderate 4. Low 5. Very Low

**D. COLLABORATION AND PARTNERSHIPS:**

**21. Has the local government collaborated with other stakeholders or organizations to support SDG implementation in your village?**

- Yes
- No

**b. If yes, please provide examples of such collaborations and partnerships**

.....  
 .....

**22. What are the contributions of these collaborations and partnerships in implementing SDG in your village/ward?**

.....  
 .....

## E. SDG MONITORING AND REPORTING

**23. Are you aware of any voluntary reviews or assessments conducted by your local government to evaluate SDG progress?**

- Yes
- No

**24. Does the local government regularly share information and report on the progress of SDG implementation in your village?**

- Yes
- No

**25. Do you believe that a voluntary review of the SDGs at the local government level can help improve implementation and accountability?**

- Strongly agree
- Agree
- Neutral
- Disagree
- Strongly disagree

**26. How would you like to contribute to the local voluntary review process of the SDGs?**

- Participate in stakeholder consultations.
- Provide feedback and suggestions.
- Volunteer for SDG-related projects.
- Other (please specify).....

*Thank you for taking the time to complete this questionnaire. Your input will help assess the voluntary Local Review of Sustainable Development Goals at your community level.*

## Annex 2

### VLR Kibaha Focus Group Discussion Guidelines

1. Are you aware/familiar with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) set by the United Nations... If Yes should mention and explain them.
2. Where did you learn about the SDGs?
3. What are the top five SDGs that should be prioritized for your community? How do you think these priorities align with the needs and aspirations of citizens in your community?
4. Are you aware of any efforts made by your local government to implement the SDGs?, If Yes, what are those efforts?
5. How are you involved in implementing the SDGs? What are the significant benefits for citizens to be involved in implementing SDGs?
6. What strategies can local government use to ensure citizens are involved in implementing SDGs?
7. In general, what do you think about the localization of SDGs in your community? Why?
8. What are the main challenges for implementing and localizing the SDG at the local level?
9. Are you aware of any voluntary reviews or assessments conducted by your local government to evaluate SDG progress?
10. Does the local government regularly share information and report on the progress of SDG implementation?



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Dar es Salaam



# THE GLOBAL GOALS

For Sustainable Development