

VIHIGA COUNTY GOVERNMENT



VIHIGA MUNICIPAL BOARD

**REPORT OF THE CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT FORUM ON THE
PRESENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE VIHIGA
MUNICIPAL BOARD IN MAJENGO MARKET.**

REPORTS OF THE CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT FORUM ON THE PRESENTATION OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE VIHIGA MUNICIPAL BOARD IN MAJENGO MARKET, CENTRAL MARAGOLI WARD, VIHIGA SUB-COUNTY AT COMMUNITY JUSTICE CENTRE ON 20TH NOVEMBER, 2019

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JUSTIFICATION

As a legal requirement, activities of the Municipal Board have to be subjected to Public Participation where Stakeholders have to debate on the activities and proposals and give approvals where necessary before the publicizing and implementation of the activities.

Through the Urban Development Grant (UDG) an Urban Infrastructure Capital Development Grant by the World Bank, the Municipal Board made project proposals for implementation in the financial year 2019/2020 which had been put forth for stakeholders validation and debating where possible.

Various groups and institutions were consulted on the above mentioned matters. These includes Religious Organizations, Community Based Organizations, Youth Groups, Women groups, Non-governmental Organizations (NGO's), Government Officials, Education Institutions, Opinion Leaders, People Living with Disabilities

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1. Citizen engagement in matters to do with municipal development is not only a constitutional right but a critical process through which citizens' felt needs are collected, analyzed and also prioritized. It is also consistent with the bottom-up approach to development planning.
2. Citizen engagement is also a minimum requirement under the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) that is funded by the World Bank.
3. Citizen engagement for Mbale market was convened by Vihiga Municipal Board at Community Justice Center, Chango on 24th November 2019.

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Hudson Mwashu, the Sub-County Administrator Vihiga and requested for a word of prayer which was said by Jimmy Maginga. He further did a general introduction of the members according to their sub-locations. And the following sub locations were present;-

- i.) Emanda
- ii.) Ikumba
- iii.) Kidundu
- iv.) Chango

He thereafter handed over the program to the Director, Civic Education and Public Participation; Mr. Bongo Ngoseywi.

2.0 SPEECHES

2.1 Remarks from the Director, Civic Education and Public Participation

He thanked the Sub County Administrator for proper mobilization for the function.

He asked the stakeholders to actively participate in the meeting proceedings by contributing and giving their views in regards to the proposed Municipality Projects.

He further established ground rules for the meeting to run smoothly i.e. Phones on silent mode, settle down and avoid unnecessary movements, have respect of each other's opinion, minimize questions per person to allow everyone to contribute.

2.2 Remarks from the Market Committee Chairperson, Majengo

She welcomed all stakeholders to the meeting and urged the residents and traders of Majengo Market to actively participate and raise issues directly affecting them and areas they felt the board would initiate improvements.

2.3 Remarks from the Municipal Manager

In his remarks, he pointed out that as established under the department of Physical Planning, Land and Housing, the Board has the following key duties and responsibilities;

- ✓ Makes follow up on the development activities and issues within the municipality
- ✓ Listens to people's views and through the Secretariat they are able to execute on the proposed projects
- ✓ The Board is an autonomous body that has control over the activities within its mandate

He further informed the stakeholders that there are restrictions placed by the donor organization on the nature of projects to be implemented within the Municipality thus, projects to receive funding through the Urban Development Grant must sum up to a minimum cost of Fifty Million shillings (50 Million).

He further observed that the major challenge facing the implementation of the project is that there is no land to put up new projects. This has an adverse effect to the expansion of the existing projects e.g Markets, Roads etc.

He finally urged the stakeholders to be supportive to the Board to ensure ease in the implementation of the proposed projects. However, he noted that the Board will in future opt to use force on those who will be adamant to comply and stand as barriers to the implementation of the projects.

2.4 Remarks from the CECM Physical Planning, Land and Housing Eng. Kenneth Elvuna Keseko

He echoed the sentiments of the earlier speakers citing the importance of the Kenya Urban Support Program (KUSP) that is meant to improve and better the status of the major Towns within the County.

He further reiterated that planning at Majengo Market has been a great challenge since there has been a linear planning and development at the Market hence many buildings have been put up along the roads and closer to the roads.

He requested the people to assess the proposals they make and look at both the advantages and the consequences that might arise during the implementation of the proposals as this will directly affect them.

He informed the members that despite the board being autonomous body it executes its mandate within the Annual Development Plan (ADP) and the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) but is confined to the Municipality (78sqkm).

He reported that The World Bank who is the main donor of the municipal activities had done an assessment of the municipality projects for the Financial Year 2018/2019 and the County was ranked among the best; This would therefore see the County through the Municipal Board receive more funds for the Financial Year 2019/2020 that would help in the implementation of the proposed projects.

He invited the Deputy Governor and informed him that the board was currently working behind schedule and therefore there was a need for the Board to work hard in ensuring the targets had been met.

2.5 Remarks from the Deputy Governor (Chief Guest)

In his remarks, he made various recommendations;

- i.) They should ensure an equal distribution of projects in all areas within the Municipality.
- ii.) To liaise with the contractors for various projects to ensure the youth from the locality are engaged in the works as casuals.
- iii.) He requested the stakeholders to play a key role in oversight and make follow up with the Board in the projects.
- iv.) Asked the public to be good custodians by ensuring that they safeguard the projects.

He recognized the presence of the Area M.C.A Hon. Evans Chunguli and led through the introduction of the Municipal Board Members who were present in the meeting;-

1. Dorcas Wodera – Vice Chairperson and Chairperson HR committee
2. Mr. Nicholas Simani – Board Member
3. Mr. Isaac Nyamweno – Chair, Technical Committee
4. Prof. David Kikaya – Chair, Finance Committee
5. Mr. Seth Ambale – Chair, Audit Committee
6. Caroline Inyangala Andahi – Board Member
7. Mmboga Mwanaidi – ICT
8. Mr. Andrew Ahuga – Board member and Secretary to the Board

Secretariat

1. Wilberforce Lumumba - Administrator
2. Lee Jumba - Economist
3. Phares Adamba - Municipal Engineer
4. Richard Omukuya - Accountant
5. Sylvia Tekei - Municipal Auditor
6. Alice Musuluve - Environmentalist

He declared the meeting officially open.

3.0 PROJECTS IMPLEMENTATION IN THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/2019

This section was facilitated by the municipal planner. He presented a report on the status of the projects implemented in the Financial Year 2018/2019 as shown in the table below;-

S/n	Activity (as per plan/budget)	Planned Timings from – to /months	Assessment of progress (Delayed, on schedule or ahead of schedule)	Estimated % completion rate	Comments
1.	Supply of one garbage compacting truck 10 tones	April 2019 to June 2019	Ahead of schedule	100	To be delivered before the end of this month
2.	Supply and Delivery of exhauster 10 tones	April 2019 to June 2019	Delivered	100	Complete
3.	Supply and Delivery of Skip loader 10 tones Complete with litter bin	April 2019 to June 2019	Delivered	100	Complete
4.	Construction Of Waste water wetland and Bio Digester.	April 2019 to June 2019	Tender awarded		
5.	Fabrication, transportation and Installation of garbage bins	April 2019 to June 2019	Supplied and Installed	100	Complete and Launched

6.	Supply, Installation, testing and Commissioning of the 20 m & 30m monopole high mast lighting 7 and 8 Respectively	April 2019 to June 2019	Supplied and Installed	100	Complete and Launched
7.	Beautification	April 2019 to June 2019	On Schedule		Ongoing
8.	Construction Of Fire Hydrant Water drawn off points and related	April 2019 to June 2019	Delayed		
9.	Consultancy Services For Environmental and Social impact study, preliminary and detailed engineering design of Vihiga Municipality Access Roads, footpaths and flood water drains	April 2019 to June 2019	Report done and presented		In Progress
10.	Request for proposals for provision of consultancy services for preparation of the urban development plan	April 2019 to June 2019	Report Done and Presented	100	Complete

4.0 PROJECTS PROPOSAL FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR 2019/2020

This section was facilitated by Chair to the Technical Committee. The Municipal Board reported to have ear-marked projects in this various categories;-

- ✓ Upgrading selected murram roads to low volume seal tarmac.
- ✓ Urban Beautification
- ✓ Solar Street Lights
- ✓ High Mast Lights
- ✓ Street Naming
- ✓ Recreation parks/Green spaces

The projects and their allocations are as identified in the table below;-

PROJECT NAME	LOCATION
Upgrading of Murram road to bitumen standard	Tsimbalo – Enderi – Luanda Road
High Mast Lights	Munoywa Majengo Market Mbale Market Runyerere Bridge Matsigulu Chavakali Junction
Recreational parks/areas	Municipal Grounds Kikuyu
Storm Water Drainage	Mudete Loop around Market Chavakali Loop around Market

5.0 PLENARY SESSION

The session was facilitated by the Director Civic Education and Public Participation.

Questions and concerns were raised by the Members and response given by the respective Board members.

5.1 Questions, Requests and Recommendations From the members.

1. Vincent Mahasi – Civil Society

He suggested to the board members to put up a water fall at Majengo town for beautification of the town. This he noted that will create a good impression to the visitors coming to the County from other counties like Kisumu.

Response – Municipal Manager

He confirmed that this was one of the projects that had been captured in the beautification exercises to be done within our markets and that they were waiting for the Highway construction works to be complete before they commence on the implementation of the beautification exercise in Majengo town .

He also proposed lights to be installed along Chango –Kidinye

road. Response – Lee Jumba

He noted that all areas within the Municipality will be considered in the lighting project but priority will be given to the urban areas and later to the rural areas.

Requested for the Upgrading of St. Joseph-Kidinye-Gisambai

road Response – Municipal Manager

He informed the stakeholders that in this financial year, one road had been selected for upgrading (Tsimbalo-Enderi-Luanda road) and therefore the other roads can be done in the preceding financial years because there is an insufficiency of finances to fund all projects in a single face.

2. Samuel - a resident of Kidundu

He requested for parking of vehicles /bodaboda riders in Majengo

town. Response – Isaac Nyamweno

He noted that this was in their plan and the Board is in the process of looking for space within the market where the parking can be established.

They therefore requested the market committee in coordination with the Sub County Administrator to identify a plot and later report back to the board soon the plot has been identified.

He complained of the poor condition of the drainage system in Majengo town that has made the accessibility to the shops difficult.

Response - Isaac Nyamweno

He requested the residents to exercise patients on this matter since the board is waiting for the Chinese Company constructing the high way to complete its works so that they could cover the open trenches and establish pedestrian walkways to ensure easy accessibility to the shops and traders.

3. George Winslaus – Boda boda Rider

He pointed out that there was no enough space in Majengo town for a market and requested the board members to find a way in which they can expand it.

Response – Isaac Nyamweno

He pointed out that the board had future projects one of them being putting up a modern open air market at Majengo Town. However the major challenge is inadequate space for the expansion of the market

He proposed the increase of streets lights in Majengo town.

Response – Municipal Manager

The Municipal Manager said that this concern had already been considered since Majengo Market is one of the areas market for second phase of the installation of High Mast lights in the financial year 2019/2020. He asked the residents to exercise patience.

He requested to know if the exhaustor vehicle services were free for stakeholders.

Response – Lee Jumba

He informed the stakeholders that the exhaustor is currently available but working only on government premises e.g. Hospitals, offices and the public will later be informed on when they can be able to access this service and at what cost.

4. Rehema Aganya

She pointed out there were no lights from Majengo to Vihiga and asked the board members to consider installing them there.

Response – Municipal Manager

He informed the stakeholders that the same will be considered in the near future.

She also suggested to the board members that beautification to be done at Lotego so as to change the face of the area considering that the area host the Law Court and the Police Headquarters which in general attracts quite a good number of people from within the County and outside the County.

Response – Stakeholders were informed that the board will consider urban areas first.

5. Elisha – Village Elder Chavugami

He suggested to the board members to find a way to put up a sewage management system for the people of Majengo area.

Response – Lee Jumba

He noted that despite this being one of the most expensive projects to implement, the board has captured it in the future plan and although still faced with the challenge of insufficient space within the market for setting up such a project.

He also noted that there was no zebra crossing along Majengo –Mbale road especially at the market yet there are many school children along that road.

Response – Isaac Nyamweno

He admitted that this is an issue that should be urgently addressed although noting that it was not within their jurisdiction and therefore advised the market committee to consult with KeNHA so that they can help address this issue.

He finally proposed that a public toilet to be built at Majengo

town. Response – Isaac Nyamweno

He noted that this was a necessity. However, there is limited space for setting up of the public toilet he requested the committee to advice on availability of land/space for setting up.

6. Allan – Representative Nyota Estate

He suggested to the board that instead of upgrading the Governor’s resident road they should consider at least two markets within the Municipality and upgrade the roads that are leading to those markets.

Response - Isaac Nyamweno

He informed the stakeholders that although the road is leading to the Governor’s residence, it is not only the Governor who will benefit from it but all residents of that area since it will open up the area to many opportunities.

7. Pamela Ogando – Grocery

She pointed out that the market at Majengo town is in poor condition and suggested to the board members to put up a modern market with modern and upgraded market shades for the traders.

Response – CECM Physical Planning, Land and Housing

He admitted that the market was not safe for traders but informed them that the market would soon be done. He informed them that the tender for the completion of the market had already been advertised.

8. Nicholas – Education Civil Society

He proposed to the Board members to put up a Recreational Centre at Majengo

Town. Response – Municipal Manager

Setting up of a recreational park needs enough space and therefore the board will have to acquire more land to facilitate the same.

9. Ronald Muhando – Kidundu

He suggested to the board to appoint local people who will be reporting on the progress when implementing the projects.

Response – David Kikaya

He informed them that the board will consider the issue when implementing the projects.

10. Duncan - Resident

He requested the board to help in establishing a dumpsite at Majengo town to help in the management of the litter within the market.

Response – Lee Jumba

He informed them that the project is too expensive and it will be considered in the future plans.

11. Aggrey Ogoma – Person Living with Disability

He raised a concern that PLWDs were not represented in the Municipal Board.

Response – Municipal Manger

He informed members representing the PLWDs that they were classified under marginalized groups and they were represented by youth.

6.0 SUMMARY OF THE CHALLENGES FACING THE IDENTIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS

The Chair to the Municipal Board Technical Committee highlighted a number of challenges the board had experienced in the implementation of the projects in the previous financial year and the foreseen challenges in the implementation of the projects for the financial year 2019/2020.

- Narrow roads within the municipality that has made planning a challenge. He urged the residents to be ready to cooperate with the board to ensure the roads are expanded to accommodate the bigger plan of the municipality.
- Lack of land that can be used for setting up of new projects e.g. the Dumping sight, Recreational parks, Market expansion and public cemetery.
- The board does not have enough staff in its secretariat who can help in the overseeing of the projects at the grassroots.
- Lack of qualified local contractors who can take up the contracts and deliver quality work on the advertised projects. This has led to some projects stalling.

The meeting ended at 3:30pm and a prayer made by Mr. Jimmy Maginga.

REPORT PREPARED BY,

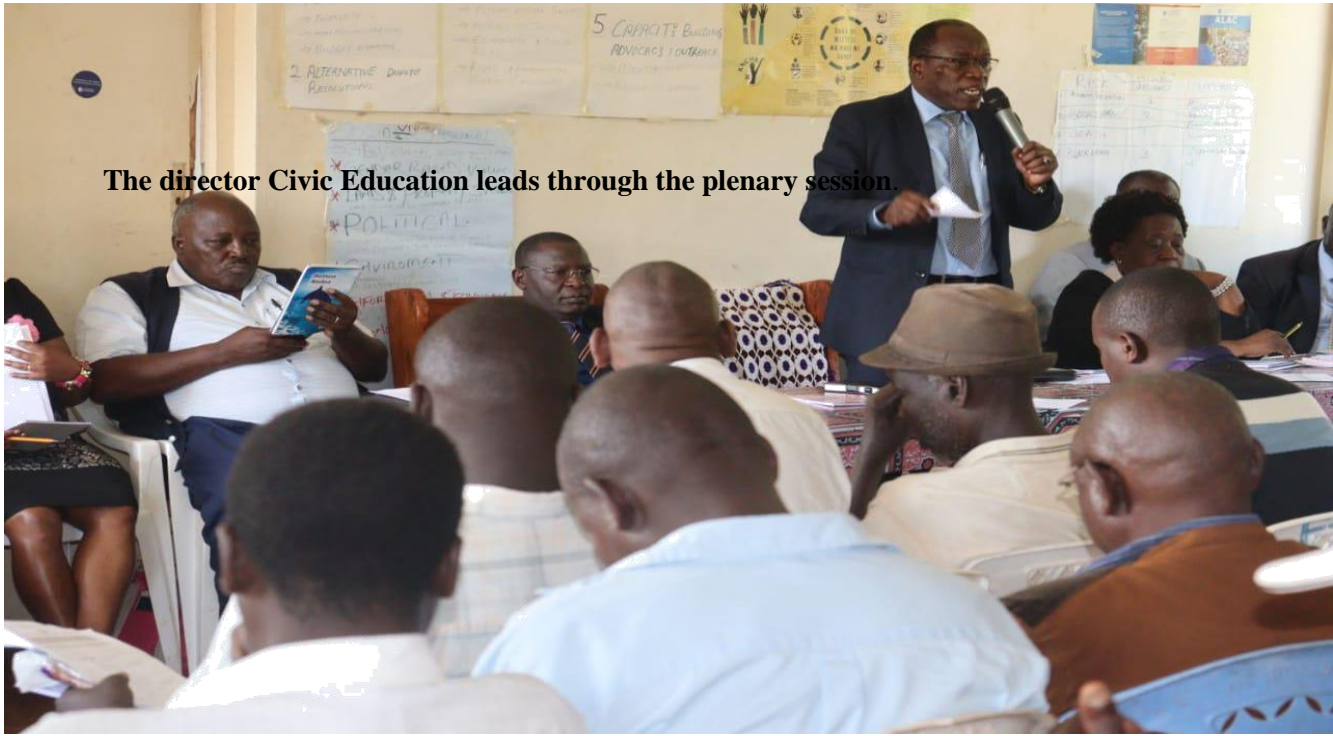
DR. JAIRUS AMAYI
(MUNICIPAL MANAGER)

7.0 PICTORIAL EVIDENCE FOR THE MEETING



Municipal board Members at Community Justice During the citizen engagement forum





The director Civic Education leads through the plenary session.

The deputy Governor dressing majengo market stakeholders at community justice center.



Chair to the technical committee presenting urban investment plan for financial year 2019/2020



A stakeholders express concerns during the plenary session at Community Justice Center.



Stakeholders at Community Justice Center



The municipal planner makes a presentation of the projects implementation for the financial year 2018/2019





Stakeholders giving their views on the municipal board activities.



A bodaboda operator at Majengo market giving views at Community Justice Centre