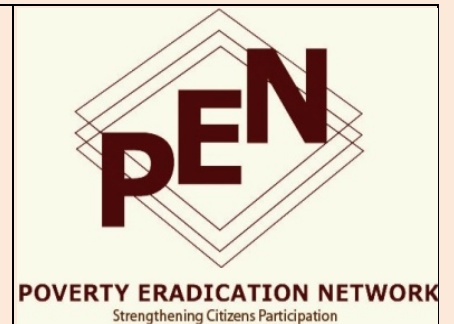


PEN Newsletter

Keeping you updated on our work

MAY 2013



PEN VOTER EDUCATION PROGRAM IN MACHAKOS AND MAKUENI COUNTIES

Voter education program ended in the month of February 2013 with emphasis on preparation of citizens in Machakos and Makueni Counties with voter information necessary as they prepared to exercise their voting rights. Leadership and Integrity also formed a major discussion area within the project in regard with chapter six of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 to educate citizens on importance of electing leaders of integrity in the general election held on March 4th 2013.

Community members and local leaders have continued to comment on the voter education exercise long after the general election citing that an objective role was played by **PEN** to reach people in the Counties of Machakos and Makueni. The people appreciated the information sharing forums since this was the first general election under the Constitution of Kenya 2010 with new Elective positions and issues of devolved governments, Leadership and Integrity being addressed.

Devolution and Voter education project is a democratic governance project known as - "Jukumu letu" funded by **Amkeni waKenya – UNDP**.

Special Interest Articles

Pg 1

**Voter Education in
Machakos and Makueni
September to March 2013**

Pg 2

PBO ACT 2013

Pg 3

**PEN Consulting
Services/PMDC**

POVERTY ERADICATION NETWORK (PEN)

Sir Francis Ibiyam House,
6th Floor, AACC Compound,
Waiyaki Way, Westlands.
Nairobi
P.O. Box 4932 – 00200,
Tel. +254 020 8164164
Mobile +254 720 600656,
+254 734 450645

Email: info@penkenya.org
www.penkenya.org

Ms. Mbitia, the Chief Iiani location in Mbooni Constituency in Makueni expressed with profound joy that she had an easy time on general security in her location during and after the general election in which she attribute this to the elaboration of the need to promote free, fair and peaceful elections and the existence of the Elections Act and the Political Parties Act, 2011 to the Wananchi.

Ms. Jemimah Kiio the Assistant Chief Kiima Kimwe Sub-location in Machakos attested that, as it is the requirement of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 that Civic education be a continuous process, the County governments, the Electoral body and the Civil Society Organizations to work towards achieving this in order to equip the communities with information and skills on performing the noble task of participating in the implementation of the Constitution of Kenya 2010.



Voting procedures explained



Sample Ballot Papers Shown at a Baraza



PUBLIC BENEFIT ORGANISATIONS (PBO) ACT - 2013

Contact:
CSO Reference Group
Secretariat
c/o
Poverty Eradication
Network (PEN)
AACC Building, Waiyaki
Way, Westlands
P.O. Box 4932 - 00200,
Nairobi

Tel: +254-20-4450656/7
Fax: +254-20-4440880

Email:
pboact@penkenya.org
Website:
www.penkenya.org



The Public Benefits Organizations (PBO) Act 2013, seeks to provide a conducive environment for the formation, operations and growth of Public Benefits Organizations (PBOs) in Kenya; to establish a regulatory and institutional framework within which Public Benefits Organizations can conduct their affairs and for such other connected purposes.

The PBO Act, 2013 was given a presidential assent on 14th January 2013 and gazzeted on the 18th March 2013.

Highlights of the PBO Act

- Basis for the existence of a variety of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs)
- Voluntary Self-regulation by PBOs
- Establishment of an Independent Registration and Regulation Agency
- Clear benefits for PBOs
- Complaints and Redress Mechanism.

- Leadership and Integrity
- Basic Financial Transparency and Reporting requirements
- Clear Reporting and Compliance requirements
- Allows PBOs to engage in commercial activity
- Framework for collaboration between Government and PBOs

The Act will only become operational after the Cabinet Secretary in charge of the civil society organizations docket issues a commencement date.

- This Law in its current form embraces the spirit of the new Constitution of Kenya, 2010.
- The PBO Act also seeks to provide an enabling environment for the establishment and operation of civil society organizations in Kenya
- The development of this Law was preceded by extensive research and

widespread consultations with civil society organizations and practitioners across the country.

- New registration will only be required for Public Benefit Organizations (PBOs) that choose to operate under the PBO Act and were not previously catered for under the NGO Co-ordination Act of 1990.
- A transition period is provided for by this Act.
- This allows the formulation and gazettment of rules and regulations, which will assist in interpreting the law for effective implementation.

Copies of the PBO Act 2013 are available at the Government Printers, or downloaded at Website www.kenyalaw.org or www.penkenya.org.

To support any of PEN projects or if you wish to make a donation please contact us.....

Bank Transfer

Donations may be made directly into the PEN Kenya Bank account below:

Account Name: Poverty Eradication Network

Bank: Barclays Bank of Kenya

Branch: Queensway Branch

Account Number: 030941604986

Swift BIC: BARCKENX

Bank Address: P.O BOX 30011, Nairobi. Kenya

Cheque payment

Send cheques to: Poverty Eradication Network

Donate in person

You can also visit us at our offices to make your donation directly and learn how your gift goes a long way to make a difference in the lives of communities.

PEN Kenya: Sir Francis Ibiyam House, 6th Floor, AACC Compound, Waiyaki Way, Westlands, Nairobi.

PEN CAPACITY BUILDING FOR ORGANISATIONS PROGRAM

PEN works with organisations in a participatory manner

Our focus has always been that of **building the institutional capacity of indigenous NGOs, Community based organisations, Public institutions.**

PEN's multi-sectorial approach aims at strengthening poor people's productive, intellectual, physical organisational capacity and stresses self-reliance, a holistic approach and an optimal use of local resources.

PEN received the KRA Income Tax exemption certificate for a period of three years; hence now all consulting by PEN NGO will not incur withholding tax.

PEN has put in capability statements to **Trademark East Africa** and **USAID** for capacity building partnership.

Management Systems International (MSI) and **Agro consulting Europe S.A (AES)** have recently setup offices in Kenya and are seeking to partner with PEN on consulting work within Kenya and the region.

PEN MANAGEMENT AND DEVELOPMENT CONSULTANTS LIMITED (PMDC)

PEN has established a consulting arm called **PEN Management and Development Consultants Limited (PMDC).**

The new Company will work with **businesses, government agencies and civil society** to achieve the impact and sustainability needed to make social change a reality.

PMDC envisions a society and economy in which government works with civil society and the private sector to create positive social and environmental impact while generating economic value.

Purpose Statement:

PMDC is a mission-driven social enterprise, dedicated to advancing best practices and improving capacity in poverty reduction programmes, policy, philanthropy and corporate social investment, through consulting to values driven organisations.

PMDC Goals:

1. Sustainable financial support to Poverty Eradication Network (PEN) Kenyan NGO.
2. High quality consultancy which enables all actors improve their interventions to help positively transform society
3. Values driven organisations and actors across all sectors positively engage and foster collaboration for the transformation of society.

PMDC seeks to work with East African Corporate organisations to create and fine tune their CSR, Foundation and Philanthropy policies.

PMDC Value statements

People: Our services are customer focused.

Project: Our services are quality focused.

Principles: We apply ethical considerations to the type of work and whom we work with.

General approach

- Facilitate a participatory approach in the developmental process of society at large
- PMDC will utilise the specialised knowledge of civil society in Kenya by using PEN staff and associates.

