

TAX JUSTICE PROGRAMME

TAXES FOR ESSENTIAL SERVICES



OXFAM

IN THE QUEST FOR POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND REDUCING THE ECONOMIC INEQUALITY IN KENYA, ONE OF THE ULTIMATE ISSUES TO ADDRESS IS ENSURING THE GOVERNMENT OF KENYA'S EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY MOBILIZES AND MANAGES ITS DOMESTIC RESOURCES THROUGH A PROGRESSIVE TAX SYSTEM, PROPER MANAGEMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER STRATEGIES.

The 5-year programme aims to mobilise citizens to hold their government to account on equitable raising, gender – responsive allocation and spending of financial resources at a national and county level as well as using evidence base to influence policy and public campaigning. To achieve this, the programme is using multi faceted approaches to achieve change at scale; policy influencing, building solid partnerships with traditional and non-traditional actors, promoting active citizenship, use of technology and mobilising resources towards ending inequality and injustices causing poverty.

The vision underpinning the programme is drawn from Oxfam's cause in fighting the injustices of poverty. In a world where the gap between the rich and the poor is increasing at an alarming rate, the need to tackle income inequality remains imperative.



DOMESTIC RESOURCE MOBILISATION PROJECT

Oxfam Kenya and its partners are implementing a 3 year multi country project on Mobilising Progressive Domestic Resources for Quality Public Services ("DRM Project") funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Finland. The project is being implemented in Kenya and Vietnam and aims to make fiscal systems in both countries more progressive in order to tackle inequality and poverty.

The Domestic Resource Mobilization project was launched to the Kenyan public through a public campaign 'Ushuru Na Huduma' ('My Taxes My Money') which is raising awareness in Kenya on taxation, extractives and public service delivery. Oxfam Kenya has also recently joined the global Fiscal Accountability for Inequality Reduction (FAIR) programme so as to enhance its ways of working.



TAX AND EXTRACTIVES

Oxfam has positioned itself as a thought leader in developing evidence based research that influences and informs policies, Governments and citizens. Oxfam Kenya commissions evidence based research for policy influencing and advocacy. In March and May 2016 the programme launched research on; (1) Potential petroleum revenues for the Government of Kenya: Implications of the Proposed 2015 Model Production Sharing Contract, (2) Mapping risks to future Government petroleum revenues: A framework for prioritizing advocacy, research and capacity building and (3) The use of tax havens in the ownership of Kenya Petroleum Rights.



TAX AND INEQUALITY

In a country like Kenya where the median age is 19 years (UNDP, 2015) there is need to tell the inequality story (and all other stories) to this massive class of citizens in a way that grips and captures their attention, and most importantly, provokes them to take the much needed action that addresses inequality in Kenya. **According to a report published by Oxfam, history has proven that the stranglehold of elites that entrenches inequality can be broken by the actions of ordinary people and the widespread demand for progressive policies and structural implementations. This starts with storytelling.**

Oxfam Kenya is part of the Inequality Alliance – Kenyan Chapter, which is part of the Fight Inequality Alliance, a global movement working to address inequality. The Alliance is made up of a number of organisations including Oxfam International, ActionAid International, Amnesty International and others. In Kenya, the Alliance has mobilised together with national CSOs to engage the public in the campaign to end inequality.

Oxfam Kenya is also working with artists in the creative sector, specifically, rappers, graffiti artists and photo journalists to break down into small pieces the whole subject of inequality and bring to the fore its adverse



effects to the average Kenyan citizen. The first of its kind festival dubbed *“Usawa Hiphop Festival”* which targets university students to have inequality conversations through music and art.

OUR PARTNERS

Diocese of Lodwar, Caritas Lodwar in Turkana, Arid Lands Development Focus (ALDEF) in Wajir, National Taxpayers Association (NTA) and Inuka Kenya Ni Sisi! (Nairobi), Turning Tables Kenya

JOIN US!

Together we can end the injustices
causing poverty and economic inequality!



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**Oxfam works with others to overcome
poverty and suffering**

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