Dear Partner,

IBP Kenya is pleased to share with you our newsletter for the first quarter of 2014.

**Parliamentary Initiatives**

IBP Kenya through the Parliamentary Initiatives Network (PIN) has been involved in a number of activities in order to engage with parliament. During this quarter, IBP trained PIN members on the Kenya Budget Cycle and budget analysis using a budget analysis tool that IBP Kenya produced together with other Civil Society Organizations.

**Research**

This quarter, we started a new series of short papers on Understanding the Kenyan Budget. We released two papers that seek to help citizens, the media, and members of Parliament understand what the government spends money on and contribute to the debate about national priorities and revenue sharing.

Check out our infographic released on the first paper that provides a visual and graphical Government Priorities [here](#).

**Division of Revenue Bill 2014 Forums**

IBP Kenya held a series of forums on the annual Division of Revenue. The first forum, with the Institute of Economic Affairs, was a media briefing on the Division of Revenue Bill 2014. Some related links can be found [here](#).

The second forum in February 2014 was held in collaboration with the Commission for the Implementation of the Constitution (CIC). Various government institutions were present, including the Commission on Revenue Allocation.

The third forum was held in March in collaboration with the Institute of Economic Affairs (IEA). The forum focused on the highlights of the DoRB 2014 and was attended by Geoffrey Malombe from the National Treasury, and Senator Billow Kerrow from the Commerce and Economic Affairs Committee of the Senate. The session was moderated by CIC.

IBP Kenya also submitted a memo to both the Senate and the National Assembly on the draft DOR Bill. In addition, we helped a group of civil society organizations working in the health sector to submit their own DOR 2014 memo to Parliament, focusing on funding for Level 5 hospitals.
Working with the County Governments

Taita Taveta County

We worked with Taita Taveta County government on a number of activities in the first quarter. IBP Kenya did a two day induction training for Taita Taveta County Budget and Economic Forum (CBEF) members, focusing on budget process and key documents.

Together with Taita Taveta County Development Forum, IBP Kenya also did a one day training with an interfaith group in the county, which saw a wide spectrum of residents trained on their role in the budget process. The governor – Hon. John Mruttu – then asked the IBP team to conduct another training targeting civil society in the county to help them understand the budget process and be able to engage meaningfully in the county.

The County Budget and Economic Forum supported an IBP-led training of civil society in March 2014 which had 40 representatives from Taita Taveta County.

County Fiscal Strategy Papers

IBP Kenya together with a group of civil society organisations is working to analyze the County Fiscal Strategy Papers of various counties. We have been working on this with various partners, and you can find an example from our Uasin Gishu partners here.

Media Work

IBP Kenya in collaboration with Media Council of Kenya and Twaweza Communications has been holding a series of workshop trainings in Coastal, Eastern, Central, Rift Valley and Nyanza regions of Kenya. Journalists from the counties in each region have been trained in budgets and devolution. The aim of the trainings is to empower local journalists in the regions to engage with budgets and to strengthen their oversight role. In the first quarter, we trained journalists in Nyeri and Nakuru Counties from Eastern and Rift Valley regions respectively.

IBP also facilitated another set of media training with Media Focus on Africa (MFA). We trained journalists in Taita Taveta, Narok and Nyandarua counties on the Kenya budget process. Follow up trainings will be conducted in the month of May 2014.

Click here for a story written by a journalist James Nguchi, as a result of our training in Nyeri. Visit our website and like our Facebook page to get some of these stories.

Resources, Budget Briefs and Guides

Please find some new resources for county and national budget analysis and advocacy here:

Kenya County Budget Workshop Training Materials

How Do We Make County Budgets Useful to the Public? What Common Sense and Good Practice Tell Us

Proposal for Ward-Level Budget Hearings: Kenya County Budget Process 2014/15

16 Key Questions About Your County Budget

The Budget Process in Kenya: National and County Level

The Kenyan Public Finance Management Act 2012 FAQ (Frequently Asked Questions) For Citizens

A Popular Guide to County Planning and Budgeting

Connect With Us

IBP Kenya has been actively involved in discussions on its Facebook page. The page provides up-to-date information our activities as they happen.