

## The Model of the Social Market Economy as an Opportunity for Tanzania

SOCIAL MARKET ECONOMY AS A GATEWAY TO ENTREPRENEURSHIP

**The Civic Education Forum in Tanzania (CETA) and the Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS) organised a joint workshop in Kasulu, Kigoma region on 27 and 28 September 2019. The theme of the event was “Social Market Economy as a Gateway to Entrepreneurship”. More than 600 students — from secondary schools and higher learning institutions as well as universities students from Kasulu and from outside Kasulu attended.**

The workshop started with the patriotic song. Thereafter the CETA Project Manager, Goodluck Justin, welcomed the participants. He briefly presented the work of CETA and thanked KAS for the long-lasting cooperation. The two organisations have been working together to strengthen civic education and to promote democratic and inclusive development in Tanzania. Mr. Justin encouraged students to actively take part in the discussion.

Greetings on behalf of KAS were made by Mary Tagalile, the Programme Coordinator. She thanked students and government representatives for attending the event. She briefly explained the work of KAS in Tanzania which among others includes promoting the idea of Social Market Economy (SME), as a driving tool for the growth of Tanzanian

economy. The aim is for young people to believe in themselves, participate in the economy and become responsible citizens. She urged students to participate in the discussions and to feel free to express their opinion.



*Secondary school students during the discussion*

The event was officially opened by the Chief Guest, Col. Michael Ngayalina, the Buhigwe District Commissioner, who represented the Kigoma Regional Commissioner. Col. Ngayalina welcomed the idea of involving youths in adapting new ways of thinking. He believes that, if empowered and given space to act, youths are capable of fast-tracking the economic growth of this country. The Chief Guest informed participants on the efforts which the government is doing to create a conducive environment for businesses to grow in order to encourage the growth of private sector. This is the area where more young people could be engaged as entrepreneurs. He encouraged students to continue with their studies with

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open mind knowing that the current labor market needs educated and skilled labor force and urged them to work hard as earnings come through hard work. This is the reason for Tanzania's national slogan of "Hapa Kazi Tu". The country has the obligation of fulfilling its goals towards 2025 and this could only be possible if youths are taking part.

The first presentation was done by Prot Ponsian Ntui, a lecturer from the University of St. Augustin in Mwanza. Mr. Ntui elaborated on the different reforms which Tanzanian economy passed through since its independence. He tried to give the pros and cons of each economic development stage which the country went through and show how the SME could address those shortcomings. He also showed the students how to interpret the data concerning economic growth versus peoples participation in the economy. The SME model is also suitable for entrepreneurship because it stirs up competition and thus encourages innovations and creativity while encouraging growth of the private sector.

touched most of the participants as he struggled from a very humble beginning but now he is a successful fish farming entrepreneur at Kibirizi area in Kigoma. His business has grown to the extent that his achievement made him attend various farmers' exhibitions in the region. His secret for success is "Decide and Act". His main capital was ability and readiness. This was contrary to what most of students expected. He urged students to start with developing their plans, assessing their strengths in relation to what they plan to do, believing in what they do, run their business while keeping records, establishing meaningful networks, formalising their businesses and remain focused.

The participants were given time to contribute to the discussions. The Students came to realise that, success starts within themselves. Self determination with the right information and some guidance can help them realise their dreams. Failure is just one of those challenges.

After discussions, the Government officials from Kigoma made few remarks. The first one was the Regional Education Officer, Mr. Sowoki and the second was the Social Welfare Development Officer Mr. Msafiri Mzuzuri. They expressed their satisfaction concerning the workshop which for them came at the right time because the government has been encouraging youths to engage in entrepreneurship. They urged youths to form youths-clubs concerning entrepreneurship in their colleges and schools. The government has established a special fund for youth and women in the district and municipal councils. In order to secure this fund youths need to form groups, register them and show sense of commitment to what they plan to do.



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*Group photo of some of the secondary school students with their teachers together with the Guest of Honour Col. Michael Ngoyalina (Third seated from right), Others front row from right are Msafiri Mzuzuri, Mary Tagalile, Prot Ntui, Benedict Masha KIUNGONET Executive Director) and Damas Nderumaki (KAS)*

The second presentation was done by a successful young entrepreneur from Kigoma, Mr. Obeid Donatus. Obeid's inspiring story

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The whole session was made lively by the moderator, Dr. Augustino Mligo. Participants were highly motivated to ask a lot of questions and to contribute their ideas. They used the platform to network and promised to keep their networks alive.



*University Students during the discussion*

After summing up the discussion and addressing a way forward, the CETA Secretary General, Safari Minja, closed the symposium. He reminded the participants of their vital role in the development of Tanzania and emphasised the importance of civic involvement for a vibrant well informed civil society.



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