

KONRAD ADENAUER STIFTUNG

**REPORT ON THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE DEMOGRAPHY-URBANIZATION-
NEXUS AS A 21ST CENTURY CHALLENGE FOR POLITICIANS NETWORK
MEETING FOR KAS PARTNERS FROM EAST AFRICA HELD AT WHITE
SANDS CONFERENCE CENTRE, DAR ES SALAAM FROM 4TH -6TH OCTOBER
2021.**

DAR ES SALAAM, OCTOBER 2021

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ACA	African Policy Cycle
ACC	African Centre for Cities
ACRC	African Cities Research Centre
BRTS	Bus Rapid Transport System
CDA	Centre for Development Alternatives
CDU	Christian Democratic Union
CHADEMA	<i>Chama cha Demokrasia na Maendeleo (Party for Democracy and Development)</i>
CSIS	Centre for Strategic and International Studies
DARCH	Dar es Salaam Centre for Architectural Studies
DART	Dar es Salaam Rapid Transport
ESRF	Economic and Social Research Foundation
KANU	Kenya African National Union
TCIB	Tanzania Citizen's Information Bureau
TAZARA	Tanzania Zambia Railway Authority
TULAB	Tanzania's Urbanization Laboratory
KAS	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
UDSM	University of Dar es Salaam
REPOA	Research and Poverty Alleviation Program

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

In response to demographic and urbanization challenges in the East African cities KAS Tanzania country office convened a three days meeting in Dar es Salaam for KAS partners in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda, and Ethiopia with the aim of identifying and synthesizing demographic and urbanization challenges encountered in urban development ahead of the November 2021 Conference in Berlin, Germany.

The ***“Demography-Urbanization-Nexus as a 21st Century Challenges for Politicians Network Meeting for KAS Partners from East Africa”*** brought together 16 participants drawn from researchers and academia, politicians, government, lobby and advocacy representatives. It was facilitated by a mixture of local and international experts on demography and urbanization matters.

The meeting was graced by Dr Mathias Kamp, Policy Advisor Eastern Africa, Department Sub-Saharan Africa via Zoom from Berlin who underscored the importance of regional networking on demographic and urbanization challenges saying cross-cutting challenges needed collective effort instead of working in isolation. Similarly, he said, there was need for extra effort to address pressing global issues from different regional dimensions given their diverse impact.

Dr Kamp noted that the East Africa region had a young population compared to the aging population in Germany and other European countries, henceforth the need to address demographic and urbanization associated challenges from opposite poles was critical at the moment.

The keynote speech on ***“Demographic Growth and Urbanization in Africa-Political Challenges”*** was delivered by Dr Edger Pieterse, Director African Centre for Cities (ACCA) who noted that the Eastern Africa region will see very high urbanization growth, which is why it is very crucial to address urbanization related matters. Critical areas for focus among policy makers, according to him, should include housing, water, urban transport and other socio-economic services. These are critical issues considering that large parts of cities' dwellers are in informal sector competing for scarce resources, which inevitably bring in the question of politics.

The biggest challenge in African economies, he said is the movement from informal agriculture to informal services mostly because since independence Africa has not industrialized her economy. Governments in the region have to invest in the infrastructure and finance economic systems to bridge the gap between the rural and urban as well as those in the formal and informal sectors of the economy.

The keynote speech was followed by presentations from different experts on the following themes: ***Demographic Growth and Urbanization in Africa: Political Challenges*** by Professor Edger Pieterse, Director, African Centre for Cities, Cape Town, ***Africa's Demographic Challenge*** by Dr Oscar Otele, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Nairobi; ***Demographic Dividend or Disaster? Examples from Eastern Africa*** by Michael Mugisha, Director, Centre for Development Alternatives, Kampala and ***Talking Urban Futures in Africa: Challenges, Opportunities and Policy Prescription*** by Marielle Harris, Research Associate, Africa Program, Centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington; ***Urbanisation in Africa: Introducing the KAS-Strong Cities 2030-Network*** by Tilmann Feltes, KAS Country Resident Director in Tanzania.

Other presentations covered: ***Africa's Urbanisation Challenge*** by Ezana Haddis Weldeghebrael, Research Associate, African Cities Research Centre, University of Manchester; ***Sustainable Solutions to Urbanisation-Economic and Social Aspects*** by Dr Hubert Shija, Senior Researcher, REPOA; ***What Makes a City Resilient? -Insights from Tanzania's Urbanization Laboratory*** by Professor Fortunata Makene, Head of Strategic Research and Publications at the Economic and Social Research Foundation, Dar es Salaam and ***Introduction into Dares Salaam Bus Rapid Transport System*** by Lucy Joseph, Lecturer, College of Social Sciences, Department of Geography, University of Dar es Salaam.

From the presentations and deliberations, a number of issues were brought out. At the very top is the dichotomy between politics and technocracy mostly because of vested interests and fragile governance institutions. Participants were able to identify policy failures and administrative incapacity as major factors impinging upon solutions to demographic growth and sustainable urbanization in the region and that urbanization challenges were basically political issues that must be solved through political engagement by bringing aboard all social groupings and actors.

Similarly, it became very clear that much as demographic growth and urbanization are twin teething challenges for policy makers, technical experts and administrators in the teeming cities, the tendency has been to skim the surface leaving the core part of the problem unscathed. There is need to view demographic and urbanization challenges with a political lens given that even the solutions are more political than technical in nature. A bottom up inclusiveness approach with all stakeholders is the key in addressing demographic and urbanization associated challenges. There is also need to support efforts to build research and governance institutions with resources necessary to unlock demographic and urbanization challenges considering that the haphazard growth of cities was already taking a heavy toll on the environment, spiking crime, fueling pollution, unemployment and stretching the already poorly resourced urban authorities.

Furthermore, demography and the urban landscape in the east African region require a review of policy interventions at every level. There is potential to leverage urbanization to produce solutions that can meet and sustain the dynamic needs of growing city population. However, doing so requires more nuanced approaches and urban planning and policy making based on well researched findings.

In Tanzania, for example, there are arrangements of engaging citizens. Yet studies show that participation is low because of the existence of two systems overlapping in which the central government side always comes on top of urban councils. Councilors are helpless just like their communities they are supposed to represent. The way out must start with constitutional review in order to empower local leaders to make and enforce their decisions. However, the empowerment of Councilors must go parallel with raising community's political awareness. Likewise, there is need to empower Councilors with necessary skills to engage with authorities. But to do so the educational qualification for Councilors needs to be reconsidered especially in Tanzania where one qualifies to contest councillorship by merely being able to read and write.

At the end of their meeting, participants came up with several solution based recommendations as follows:

1. There is need to view demographic and urbanization challenges as political issues that require political solutions to be tackled through popular participation by communities across the board;
2. Urbanization and demographic issues should be given top priority in the planning boardrooms by decision-makers after thorough consultations with all stakeholders in bottom up approach;
3. There is need to review and reform the current political systems in order to bring on board the various social groupings as stepping stone to address current challenges;
4. The mismatch of qualifications between local councilors and technical administrators undermined public inputs into the policy making process. There is need to review the qualifications of representatives at the lower rungs of the political ladder in order to be able to hold administrators accountable.
5. There is need to bring closer working relation among researchers, academia and media in order to generate and disseminate solution based research knowledge to enable lobby and advocacy groups operate from an informed position;
6. Governments in the region have to invest in the infrastructure and to finance economic systems to bridge the gap between the rural and urban as well as between those in the formal and informal sectors of the economy;

7. KAS should facilitate research institutions and academia to produce knowledge based solutions and their dissemination to policy- makers, administrators and policy consumers alike.

With regard to the way forward, country teams identified areas they need to tap new knowledge and experience from their Germany/European counterparts during the Berlin Conference in November 2021 as follows:

- i. The governance framework transformation and engagement in an authoritarian political environment with reference to GDR experience;
- ii. Networking for inter-city, political parties, civil societies, lobby and advocacy teams;
- iii. Knowledge for the transformation of secular economies and civil society engagement;
- iv. Financing political parties and civil society organizations (meet KAS and CDU partners) to reduce external dependency;
- v. Development of election manifestos for political parties and how experts can transfer their knowledge into political party election manifestos;
- vi. Conducting research on demographic and urbanizations and how to feed the findings into the political systems including election manifestos;
- vii. To meet Germany experts in different organizations in order exchange knowledge and expertise in given areas on a continuous basis; and
- viii. To engagement with their Germany and European citizens across the board

BACKGROUND

The population numbers in East Africa are steadily increasing. Uganda, Tanzania, Kenya and Ethiopia together will see a two-fold increase in the population in the next 20-30 years, such that in 2050, Dar es Salaam city will have a population of nearly 30 million people and become the fifth biggest in Africa. The impact of such a development with regard to policies as well as economic and social development aspects is, however, hardly being discussed in the regional forums due to various reasons.

However, the three KAS country offices in Tanzania, Kenya and Uganda have already started to work with partner organizations to foster dialogue on the political topic. By taking into consideration important experience gained in Ethiopia, the experiences should be extended to regional level and be fed into the African and German/European political dialogue. Thus in the same spirit, the first network meeting for KAS partners from East Africa was held in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania from 4th-6th October 2021 the aim being to build a network as well as coming up with common position on the nexus between demographic growth and sustainable urbanization as a political challenge of the 21st century for politicians.

The Dar es Salaam meeting brought together 16 participants from KAS partners in Tanzania, Kenya, Uganda and Ethiopia. The aim of the meeting was to build a network as well as to come up with common position on the nexus between demographic growth and sustainable urbanization as a political challenge of the 21st century. The second aim of the meeting was to pin point the exact agenda on demography and urbanization in East Africa ahead of the Berlin Conference in November 2021.

The forum was hosted by KAS Tanzania Country Office and graced by Mathias Kamp, Policy Advisor Eastern Africa, Department of Sub-Saharan-Africa from Berlin who underscored the importance of such conferences and net workings saying regional programs are key in cross-cutting challenges instead of working in isolation.

He said there was need for extra effort to address pressing global issues from different regional dimensions and their different challenges. He noted that the East Africa region had young population compared to Germany and other European countries with aging population, henceforth approaching demographic and urbanization challenges from opposite poles was critical. The challenge facing African leaders was lack of upfront planning saying future plans must focus on the needs of the young population citing high rate of unemployment and how the young population was struggling in the Labour market. He also touched on political elections, climate change, transport and related socio-economic challenges saying the younger generation in the teeming African cities were facing multifaceted challenges which were essentially political requiring political solutions.

How people will live in the future is a pertinent question whose answer revolves around policies and politics and hence the need to discuss both short-and long- term challenges. According to Dr Kamp, fast growing population must grow in tandem with the state of the economy, infrastructure, housing and social services and for that matter foresight for policy makers is critical if the current tendency to react when it is too late can be avoided.

Noting that population in Africa was growing very fast compared to Europe, he said it was critical to address the challenges of the young population. And because the challenges were similar, there was need to exchange and share knowledge on these vexing issues including bringing aboard all key stakeholders to the project. The November conference in Berlin, he said should bring together Germany and European actors in addressing such challenges.

In his introduction remarks, Tilmann Feltes, KAS Tanzania Country Resident Director gave a brief history of KAS activities in Tanzania. According to him KAS is the oldest among Germany political foundation working in Tanzania. It has its focus on democracy, rule of law, good governance, public participation, youth empowerment, affirmative action and promotion of social market economic model. He as well underscored the importance for politicians to understand demographic challenges given the inter-twinned risks and opportunities. He also announced that KAS will be opening in office in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia

PRESENTATIONS BY EXPERTS

The opening keynote speech was followed by presentations from different experts on the subject matter. Key topics included: ***Demographic Growth and Urbanization in Africa: Political Challenges*** presented by Professor Edger Pieterse, Director, African Centre for Cities, Cape Town, ***Africa's Demographic Challenge*** by Dr Oscar Otele, Department of Political Science and Public Administration, University of Nairobi, ***Demographic Dividend or Disaster? Examples from Eastern Africa*** by Michael Mugisha, Director, centre for Development Alternatives, Kampala and ***Talking Urban Futures in Africa: Challenges, Opportunities and Policy Prescription*** by Marielle Harris, Research Associate, Africa Program, centre for Strategic and International Studies, Washington; ***Urbanisation in Africa: Introducing the KAS-Strong Cities 2030-Network*** by Tilmann Feltes, KAS Resident Director in Tanzania.

Other presentations covered: ***Africa's Urbanisation Challenge*** by Ezana Haddis Weldeghebrael, Research Associate, African Cities Research Centre, University of Manchester; ***Sustainable Solutions to Urbanization-Economic and Social Aspects*** by Dr Hubert Shija, Senior Researcher, REPOA; ***What Makes a City Resilient? -Insights from Tanzania's Urbanization Laboratory*** by Professor Fortunata Makene, Head of Strategic

Research and Publications at the Economic and Social Research Foundation, Dar es Salaam and *Introduction into Dares Salaam Bus Rapid Transport System* by Lucy Joseph, Lecturer, College of Social Sciences, Department of Geography, University of Dar es Salaam.

The last day participants dwelt on individual country demographic and urbanization challenges taking into consideration the specific political context of each country. The meeting ended with presentation of “*Country Challenges - Differences and Similarities*” and the Way Forward.

In his presentation Professor Edger Pieterse informed that the African continent was shaped by the 200 years of external intrusion including colonialism that siphoned everything. However, the 21 century will start slowly before peaking up and it is projected to have higher population mostly through both immigration and natural population growth. The Eastern Africa region will see very high urbanization growth with her growing cities accommodating 60% of the continent’s population, which is why it is very crucial to address urbanization related challenges. Critical areas for focus among policy-makers include urban infrastructure - water, housing, urban transport, environment and the competition for other socio-economic services. These are critical issues considering that in large parts of these teeming cities dwellers are in informal sector competing for scarce resources, which inevitably bring in the question of politics. Equally important, the biggest challenge in African economies is the movement from informal agriculture to informal services mostly because Africa has not industrialized her economy since independence.

Dr Pieterse, summarized key challenges facing the African continent saying most investments were going into urban at the expense of rural areas and that there is a tendency to criminalize the informal sector even though **the** urban poverty was not being addressed as 80 percent of the population is very poor. Furthermore, political pronouncements did not match with policy actions including failure to combine indigenous knowledge with indigenous innovation. With regard to strategic entry point, Dr Pieterse had the following ideas:

- Harness the emergent African policy nexus
- Consider new generation of leaders
- Go for bottom up mechanism approach
- Review decentralization approach on policy- decisions (there an inbuilt tendency to undermine through de-concentration) and
- Macroeconomics should be taken seriously.

Michael Mugisha, Director, Centre for Development Alternatives (CDA) Kampala made his presentation (via zoom) from Kampala on “*Demographic Dividend or Disaster? Examples from Eastern Africa*” in which he said there are two forces contributing to the challenges of

demography and urbanization in East Africa. On one hand, there is population shift from rural to urban centres and vice-versa; on the other hand, there pull factors including opportunities in the labour market but also shift in age structure of the population.

With regard to dividends, he said from the World Bank perspective, it was dividend in that population leads to rise in labour force but it was a disaster in that it increases the dependence ratio and it also limits the participation of women in economic activities. According to Mugisha, the labour force must increase with working opportunities (this is because people can only work if there is job to work). In Uganda for example, based on the 2014 census the youth dependency ration is 100:80 and that no change has occurred between 2010- 2020 meaning the country is littered with an unemployed youth population, which is not productive because there are no opportunities in the labour market to the extent that in order to survive university graduates end up working as *Boda Boda* drivers.

Furthermore, it is important to invest in rural areas where majority of the population live in order to stop the rural-urban migration in search of opportunities. Equally important, it is useful to focus on the driving factors for rural –urban migration and turn around local coffee and tea by adding value locally for the benefit of producers.

Another presentation was done by Stephen Ndambuki of Kenya’s National Council for Population and Development on “***Kenya Demographic Analysis and Trends***”. According to him, Kenya has some positive stories to tell when it comes to economic growth, fertility, family planning and child survival. However, the dependency ratio is still very high with serious implication to investments on social services calling for enlargement of the working population given that urban population is projected to reach 50 % in 2030.

Dr Oscar Otele, from the University of Nairobi added that there was shift of population of age structures and that fertility was at the heart of dividend. Economically, however, Dr Otele noted that when few people work to feed so many- servings and investments will go down; there pressure on health and education facilities are squeezed. Pressure is equally felt in social services from housing, transport, water and sanitation rises. On political implication an army of unemployed population endanger national stability, criminality, corruption increase but also changes in voting patterns. Other emerging issues include adolescent fertility, floating population, and climate change together with human –wild life conflict for survival. Dr Otele made clear that the challenges were basically political in that they revolve around policy decisions in the allocation of resources. The radicalization of youth and flourish of illegal cross border business are glaring testimonies to policy decision that don’t work saying governments were not working on policies that can rejuvenate communities (accommodate youth needs) to exploit their potentials.

On the positive note in terms in economic resources and through devolution in Kenya, he informed that some counties have been able to integrate their plans **with** public input in the national plans.

Marielle Harris made her presentation (via zoom) from Washington zeroing on “*Urban Futures in Africa*”; and specifically in three working areas- governance, urbanization, and training and possible solutions.

Given the host of myriad of challenges facing African cities, the first approach has been to trigger American analysts to talk about Africa (America to react on everything happening in Africa). The case of unfinished building projects, their causes and possible solutions, youth unemployment and migration including opportunities.

With regard to urbanization their focus has been on the role of government and NGO care while on migration the focus has been to rethink on development approaches (for example, if migration is an outcome of development failure one possible way is to engage in fair trade and investment between American and African cities. Relatedly is how to respond to urban violence given that 84 percent urban of violence takes place outside conflict zones not only due to socio-economic inequalities but also because municipalities in Africa lack clear policies on human rights hence people resort to violence in attempt to resolve conflicts.

They were equally promoting charter cities (the case of two cities in Nigeria and Gambia). This refers to a system in which the city’s governance is defined by the citizens in that particular city. Typical examples include: creation of policies that are attractive to investment, creates employment and offer social services and economic reforms. It as well entails pressurizing central governments to respond to the needs of city communities. Furthermore, it advocates the introduction of public-private partnership programs in the development of cities using universities as incubators for employment.

Another critical area is how to respond to Covid-19 in urbanized areas with the World Bank support in mapping up the impact of Covid-19 in high densities populated areas in the socio-economic and infrastructures (the case of Manhattan city versus areas with lower economic status as these are more prone to Covid- 19 pandemic compared to those living in area with higher status. This is because poor people must go out for survival. According to Harris, because of Covid-19 poverty will rise by 15 % in rural areas against 40% in urban areas while at the same time the pandemic will see more people move into urban areas- henceforth the need to make urban life more safe. Because urbanization was changing politics in Sub -Saharan Africa there was an equally need to change policies too. With regard to political implications for urban cities, Harris indicated that opposition political parties can win in urban areas thus countries with higher population in urban

areas can win political election in urban areas mostly because it is easy to mobilize opposition in urban areas than in rural settings.

Harris came up with the idea of partnership between African cities and US cities, however, presently US sponsors more rural projects than urban projects. With regard to climate change, she noted this was a huge challenge in African urban areas and for the sake of public good there was need for joint efforts in implementing the Millennium Development Challenges (MDCs) with clear focus on socio-economic and health-related issues, poverty, education, gender equality, child mortality and the environment.

The presentation by Feltes Tilmann “***Urbanization Africa: Introducing the KAS Cities 2030 -Network***” underlined the need to change the way urban cities are governed if they were to cope with tripling of their population mostly by young people. Answers to these challenges are located in the political domain than anywhere else. He cited Kibera in Nairobi and Soweto in South Africa saying these were hotbeds for criminality, political protests and demonstrations calling for review of the current political configuration through a holistic approach with all stakeholders aboard. In particular, politicians should be able to facilitate the cities they create rather than making empty political decisions

In his presentation Dr Hubert Shija from REPOA dwelt on “***Sustainable Solutions to Urbanisation- Economic and Social Aspects***” zeroing on possible solutions on urbanization in Africa. He underscored the need for collaborative efforts in coming with workable solutions on economic development, governance and social services and social infrastructure, safety and security, mobility and transport, sanitation services and water together with institutional capacities and resilience.

Citing Tanzania as example of the mismatch between political pronouncement and practice on the ground, Dr Shija said engagement with citizens were more said than done as all studies show popular participation is very low. For effective solutions, the focus should include:

- Engage communities in problem identification, planning and implementation of proposed solutions;
- Upgrade primary infrastructure in urban areas;
- Establish youth education and recreation centres and programs;
- Consider transport issue in urban planning by integrate transport systems (bus and railway with clear focus on public transport) in order to make them accessible to all road users;
- Consider quality information as key tool in changing the behavior of citizens to improve and take care of the environment;
- Increase public awareness on water and sanitation services including improvement in recycling on waste management;

- Improve local governance (especially in planning) and increase powers to city councils to enforce laws;
- Build capacity for governance and resilience (that recover from shocks); and
- Use cities as drivers of growth and development and involve local communities in fighting corruption and related governance issues

Regarding economic development, solutions should include:

- Giving citizens opportunities to engage in business (e.g. open weekend markets)
- Introduction of public-private partnership in undertaking socio-economic development projects; and
- There is need to empower councilors with skills and help them engage with authorities at the same time the educational qualification for Councilors need to be reconsidered especially in Tanzania where one qualifies to contest councillorship by merely being able to read and write.

DISCUSSIONS AND MAIN ISSUES RAISED BY PARTICIPANTS

In plenary discussion participants dwelt at length on the inbuilt tendency to separate politics from economic issues when addressing demographic challenges in relation to urbanization saying the two were interwoven and must be handled together.

Political leaders have always abstained from addressing demographic and urbanization challenges that need to be addressed because of their invested interests since those in the informal sector can always be used to garner votes in time of election. There is need for politicians to go beyond their political divide if they want to tackle challenges associated with demographic and urbanization in east Africa.

There are many policies in place that are hardly implemented for various reasons including corruption, which was levying a cruel tax on demographic and urbanization matters

The Judiciary, Parliament and Central Governments in east Africa are interwoven as they cannot think outside of the box, in this regard there is need to empower the local communities to challenge policy decisions made by the Central governments on matters that affect their daily lives. In Kenya, for example, counties' must have their inputs in the integrated national plans. Similarly, through devolution in Kenya, some counties have been able to demand food processing plants in their counties.

There are similarities of political setup in Uganda and Tanzania – in that central governments have always dwarfed local government authorities including both the

judiciary and parliament. It is important to review how the judiciary and parliament were working to support local communities through their grassroots organizations.

In response to fast growing population, it is important to have in place policies that address both short-and long- term challenges. The growing population must be in tandem with the state of the economy and the infrastructure; likewise, urbanization must be in tandem with rural development. In this regard, policy- makers and planners need to be far sighted instead of reacting to challenges (see Nairobi on transport) when it is too late.

Given that Covid-19 pandemic was forcing young people to go back to the land; it was a golden opportunity that should be used to change people's mindset (colonial hangover) of not liking agriculture and rural life.

Given the historical background of the cities in East Africa there is compelling need to review all city structures to make them inclusive even for those in peri-urban dwellers who cannot commute to city centre to do business because of poverty and unfriendly transport system.

From their discussion it was very clear urbanization challenges are political challenges that can be solved through political engagement and that any attempt to address demography and urbanization challenges outside the political domain will be mere scathing the surface leaving the core part of the problem unscathed.

Challenges of urbanization in Africa are colonial creatures. It was colonialism that created dependency culture that has remained intact to-date. Likewise, policies in Africa tend to look at the interest of 20 percent of the population rather than the 80 percent mostly because these are in the informal sector of the economy. There is an urgent need to advocate for policy changes that should be addressing the challenges of the 80 percent of the population including their interventions.

Notwithstanding the fact that demographic challenges were knocking on the doors of political leaders calling for workable policies including the high rate of youth unemployment, governments were not working on policies that can rejuvenate communities (accommodate youth needs).

Denied opportunities lead the young population to engage even in terrorism acts out of frustration. Thus one needs to discuss the double edged sword on all sides of the political divide with clear understanding that addressing youth challenges will eventually pay off.

Responding to issues brought out by participants, Dr Edger underlined the need to review the existing socio-economic and political systems lest the current gap continues to widen. Equally, there was need to go to the bottom of the matter and beyond the surface by involving the youth in identifying immediate and basic challenges including solutions for

what they face. Furthermore, there is need to understand the functioning of the current bureaucratic systems. African government will have to invest in the infrastructure and to finance economic systems that bridge the gap between the rural and urban as well as those in the formal and informal sector of the economy.

On his part, Michael Mugisha responded by saying rural people were having many children; because many of them are forced operate on squeezed economy. In this regard it was important to consider policies on land reform so as to unlock economic potential for the rural population. The good thing is that already the government has acknowledged the existence of economic problems and the need to find solutions.

There is need to prioritize urbanization challenges through engagement with decision makers, local councils and parliamentarians, media, researchers and academia in a community based multi-stakeholder approach from bottom up.

Development partners should consider rendering support in building capacities in the local urban councils in order to address demographic and urbanization challenges.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on paper presentations and issues brought out by participants in plenary discussions the following are recommendations for follow up and future actions:

1. There is need for new forms of social structures for the new generation starting at the sub-municipal level and this must start by the institutionalization of the new political systems;
2. Policies such as on land reforms need to be addressed by putting in place attractive policies if demographic trends are going to be meaningful;
3. Considering international organizations like the World Trade Organizations (WTO) works in favour of the powerful options available for the productive youth remain in the agricultural sector and so policy makers must put in place workable policies on rural development;
4. The radicalization of youth and flourish of illegal cross border business in the east regional countries are glaring testimonies to policy decision that don't work. There is need for government to come up with policies that can rejuvenate communities (accommodate youth needs);
5. Demographic challenge is knocking on the leader's political doors calling for workable policies. There is an urgent need to review policy formulation processes through popular participation in a bottom up approach;

6. Given that political set up in Tanzania and Uganda are similar and considering that such political configuration allows the central governments to dwarf upon local government authorities including both the judiciary and parliament. It is important to review how the judiciary and parliament were working to support local communities through their grassroots organizations;
7. Given that denied opportunities lead the young population to plunge into terrorism acts out of frustration, policy makers across the political dived need to address the double edged sword;
8. A new form of social infrastructure is needed for the new generation starting at the sub-municipal level and this can start by institutionalization of the new systems;
9. Considering the advantages brought about by digital technology in influencing power, digital revolution should be taken a basic human right; and
10. KAS and her partners should continue to facilitate research teams and academia in their searching quest for knowledge based solutions and their dissemination to policy- makers, administrators and policy consumers alike.

THE WAY FORWARD

The Network meeting in Dar es Salaam came up with practical proposals for the forthcoming Berlin Conference in November 2021 and on future working relation between the East African Network and those in Germany and the European Union as follows:

1. Sharing and exchange of experience and knowledge through meetings with host partners at city/ municipal levels;
2. To share experiences on better revenue collection approaches (automation for example) and how to strengthen control and accountability systems;
3. Learn more on governance and political environment given that in the East African region there is tendency among politicians to arm-twist governors to respond to their vested interests (sitting allowance) but are no responsive to their voters' (communities) concerns;
4. Learn more in urban planning especially in relation to urban infrastructure-transport, housing, environment, recreational facilities and health care areas;
5. To share and exchange knowledge on all aspects of climate change in the urban infrastructure around the cities;
6. To share knowledge with urban stakeholders (communities) how to demand changes they want in their urban localities including the urbanization agenda in the election manifesto of the various political parties;

7. Civil society transformation and engagement in to learn how to coped and responded to an authoritarian regime (experience from the GDR period);
8. To meet representatives from the government (ministry for economic cooperation), political parties (CDU) and political foundations (KAS), media representatives and the general public in Germany and that;
9. In all these engagements the entry point should be on demography and urbanization challenges