



Survey results:

Advanced seminar - Decentralisation and Local Governance

ECDPM
Session 1.2

General remarks

THANK YOU! We received 20 surveys (for 29 Delegations)

- **General tendency towards decentralisation:**

In progress	Status quo	Recentralisation	Zigzagging
55%	35%	5%	5%

- **But the degree of decentralisation is still (very) low:**

Low Decentralisation	Medium Decentralisation	High Decentralisation
80%	15%	5%

AUTHORITARIAN



REGIMES



(Authoritarian + fragile state)



(Authoritarian but emerging democracy)

Authoritarian regimes

- *Both have low decentralisation but with some progress (Burkina Faso)*
- *No access to local actors, decentralised project was halted by the government (Eritrea)*
- *No real political will to decentralise (Burkina Faso)*
- *Attempts to at least coordinate the donors*

HYBRID



REGIMES



SRI LANKA



MALDIVES



CAMBODIA



UKRAINE

Hybrid regimes

- *Low decentralisation but with progress (Cambodia & Maldives), status quo (Sri Lanka) or even recentralisation (Ukraine)*
- *No policy dialogue around decentralisation (Sri Lanka, Ukraine)*
- *Capacity building of CSOs in engagement with government (SL-Maldives)*
- *Some successes in increasing decentralisation ownership to government (Cambodia)*

EMERGING



DEMOCRACIES



Development and
Cooperation -
Europeaid



Emerging Democracies

- *Low decentralisation contexts (except for Morocco and Egypt)*
- *Weak local institutions (Morocco, Guatemala, Dominican Republic, Mozambique)*
- *So a lot of support focuses on strengthening Local Authorities (DR, Morocco, Mozambique, Rwanda & Pakistan)*
- *Involvement of LAs in policy dialogue processes remains low across the board*

ESTABLISHED

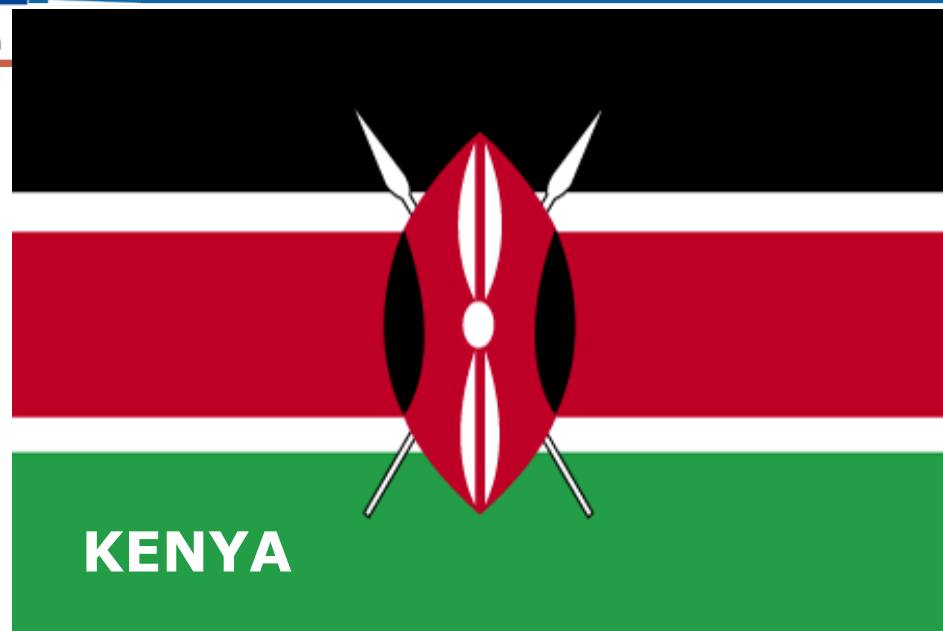


European
Commission

DEMOCRACIES



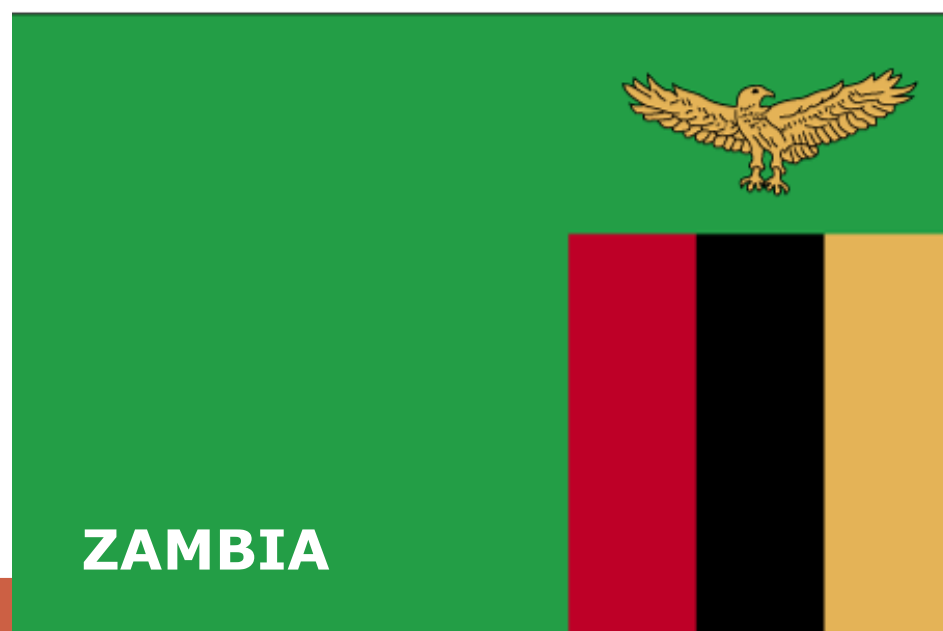
GHANA



KENYA



LESOTHO



ZAMBIA

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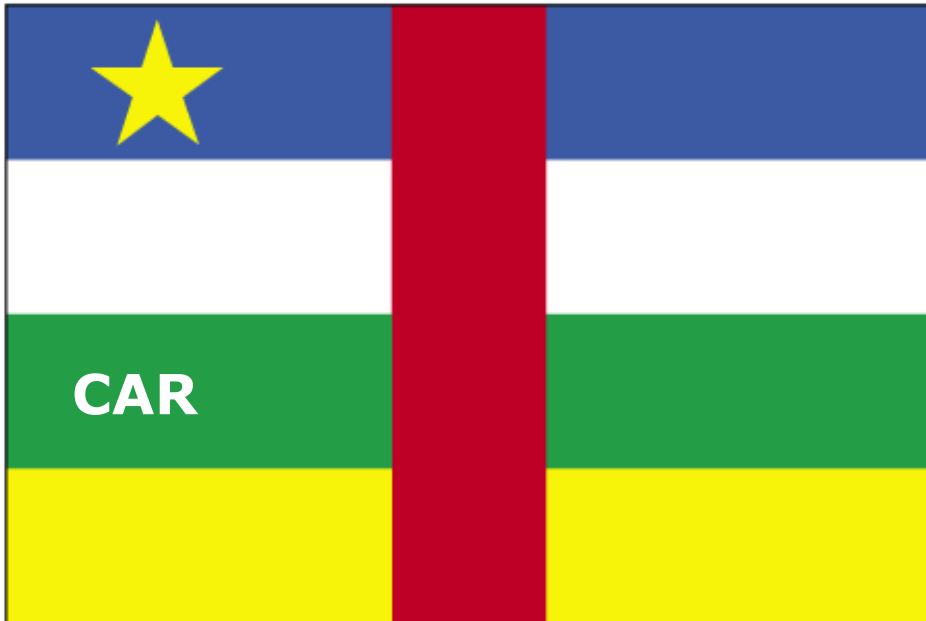
Established democracies

- *Level of decentralisation is still low, except for Ghana (moderate)*
- *Two cases (Ghana, Kenya) of top-down support and two (Lesotho, Zambia) of bottom-up support to decentralisation*
- *High level of LA involvement in policy dialogue processes (Kenya)*
- *Lack of coordination at ministerial level still a major bottleneck (Lesotho, Ghana)*

FRAGILE



STATE



Fragile States

- *Government declarations but no real dialogue (both)*
- *So decentralisation level is low and little indication of progress (both)*
- *Attempt to work through "structured dialogue" with LAs (Lebanon)*
- *Low territorial control of the state (CAR)*

Main Successes

- ① Professionalization and capacity development of LAs
- ② Use variety of modalities to support decentralisation
- ③ Coordinate the approaches of the donors to achieve higher leverage
- ④ Involve LAs at the implementation level
- ⑤ Direct support to domestic and social accountability
- ⑥ Dialogue and confidence building through regular meetings
- ⑦ Focus on the democratic aspects of decentralisation



Main Weaknesses

- ① Lack of coordination between donors, different political levels within the country
- ② Lack of strategic vision at the national political level
- ③ EC support is only targeting the traditional sectors and focused on the central and not local level
- ④ Little space for decentralisation processes
- ⑤ Decentralisation is not a focus within the Delegation

Overall aspects

- *The main entry point used by Delegations to engage with decentralisation is "Other indirect support (e.g. enhancing democratic participation at local level" (75%)*
- *Engagement with the political dimensions of decentralisation remains moderate (55%) to low (35%)*
- *The main roles played by the Delegations are*
 - Raising awareness on the importance of key reforms (60%)
 - Helping to structure national policy dialogue processes (50%)
 - Providing 'embedded' TA in support of reform processes (65%)



Overall aspects

- Little use of Political Economy Analysis to understand the context in which you operate (20%)
- Involvement of LAs in policy dialogue processes is very low at national level (85-100%) but also with donors (60%) and EUDs (55%)
- *A lot of demand for operational guidance, esp. PEA, Budget support to decentralised levels and Performance based grant systems*

Buzz groups

- ① What are the main sources of information that help you establish your opinion (to fill in this survey and in your daily work)?
- ② List three things that shocked or surprised you when hearing the synthesis of the experiences in the different delegations?