

A brief report on DDPs International Involvement

Nompumelelo Shezi on behalf of DDP attended a citizens' education training workshop for civil society representatives and community trainers in Eastern and Southern Africa, held in Kampala, Uganda, from 4th – 8th June 2009. The training workshop was organised by the Development Network of Indigenous Voluntary Associations, DENIVA, based in Uganda, with support from the Commonwealth Foundation.

Participants were drawn mainly from national, sub-regional and regional civil society organisations in Africa actively working on governance issues. It was expected that all participants will bring to the meeting views and perspectives from their national networks and take back information for sharing, as well as play a role in follow-up activities decided upon at the workshop. The Good Governance Southern African Learning Network, GGLN as part of the LOGOLINK network and because of its involvement in Good Governance issues was invited to send a representative. Amongst the organisations forming part of the network of which DDP is a member, availed itself to take part in the training.



The aim of the training workshop was to increase citizens' participation in governance, by promoting as widely as possible the use of the Citizens Education Action Learning (CEAL) Guide. The Guide was developed by Asia South Pacific Bureau of Adult Education (ASPBAE) at the request of the Commonwealth Foundation as part of its Governance and Democracy programme. The Guide draws on the wealth of knowledge accumulated in the Commonwealth Foundation's Citizens' and Governance Toolkit and on ASPBAE's expertise in training facilitation and modules development.

After the workshop, it was expected that participants will return to their work to adapt and apply what they have learnt. The plan is that they will be contacted by DENIVA approximately 12 months after the workshop and asked to contribute a summary report of how they have been able to adapt their learning from the ongoing work. The expectation is also to contribute to case studies, stories, videos, photos or activities that could contribute to a revised edition of the CEAL Guide or a companion compilation of resources.



Current observations of the guide is that it is user friendly and very resourceful to the facilitator. It uses a participatory approach that cuts across all barriers be they language or educational. The tools are quite adaptable to various themes and have no limits to lessons to be drawn.