

**An assessment of the livelihoods of internally displaced persons: a case study of  
Mabwepande ward, Kinondoni municipality**

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In December 2011 Dar es Salaam City was subjected to massive flooding following heavy rainfall. The flooding water overwhelmed the City drainage system resulting into population displacement of the city's residents along Msimbazi valley and Mzinga River. About 1004 households were internally displaced and allocated in Mabwepande ward as a host area. Sample size was 109, the study involved 104 IDPs respondents sampled through simple random sampling technique and purposive sampling of 5 key informants.

The study assessed changes in the livelihoods of IDPs after being allocated in Mabwepande ward. Primary data was collected through questionnaires, structured interviews and non-participant observations. Secondary data was collected through the reviews of documented information. The data generated was edited, coded and entered into IBM Statistical Package for Social Science (SPSS) version 21. Quantitative analysis including total and percentage was used and summary was presented through tables and graphs. Content analysis was used to analyse qualitative data.

The study revealed that IDPs had to change their livelihood strategies in order to adapt to new environment after losing pre-displaced livelihood strategies. Furthermore the study revealed changes in access to livelihood capitals. IDPs had accessibility to water supply, roads and primary education and plots of land for settlement. Also IDPs failed to regain some livelihood capitals including savings, which was weakened, long distance to access secondary schools, poor roads infrastructure that led to difficult mobility. Internal displacement impacted socio-economic aspects of IDPs including fall in income, poor nutrition, increase in the cost of living, change in the gender role, inadequate provision of social services, increase in distance and improvement of settlement. Intervention measures have been taken by the Government, NGOs and Individuals so far they failed to regain and rebuild IDPs' pre-displaced livelihoods specifically financial capital.

The study concludes that, the livelihoods of IDPs have changed after allocated in Mabwepande ward, their economic base was weakened that accelerates poverty. Basing on the findings, it

is recommended that various stakeholders should empower IDPs to rebuild sustainable livelihoods through adaptive strategies.