



Organization profile

National Taxpayers Association

October 2021

Organization background

National Taxpayers Association (NTA) is an independent, non-partisan organization focused on promoting good governance in Kenya. Since 2006, NTA has been implementing programmes focused on enhancing public accountability through monitoring the quality of public service delivery and the management of devolved funds. It has achieved this through the development of social accountability tools (Citizen Report Cards), civic awareness, citizen capacity-building, partnerships with government agencies, service providers, private sector, civil society and community action groups.

NTA is fully independent of government; however, it is committed to working with the government and its agencies to improve service delivery and the management of devolved funds. NTA has a governing council of 12 prominent civil society and religious organizations and three active regional coordination offices; Rift Valley regional office based in Eldoret, Nyanza/Western regional office based in Kisumu and Nairobi region based at the NTA secretariat-Nairobi. NTA has established both constituency and County level structures where activities of the organization are shaped, managed and implemented by citizens through the Constituency Monitoring Committees (CMCs) and the County Accountability Networks (CAN) respectively. NTA is currently working with Organized Taxpayers Groups (OTGs) in Nandi, Vihiga, Homabay, Kisumu and Nairobi Counties. This has significantly improved organization reach and enhanced public accountability at grassroots level.

NTA has conducted research and provided information to Kenyans through its Citizen Report Cards (CRCs), scoping studies, public forums, and civic education through the media to present issues on how devolved funds are being used and their impact on development in constituencies and Counties in a simple, user-friendly, and accessible manner. NTA has so far produced National Government -Constituency Development Fund (NG-CDF) Citizens Report Cards (CRCs) for 164 constituencies, the now defunct Local Authority Transfer Fund (LATF) CRCs in 21 local authorities and the score card for 6 Counties. Analysis of Budgets, Finance bills and Acts, OAG and COB reports.

Vision Statement:

A taxpayer responsive government delivering quality services to all

Mission statement:

To advocate for government accountability in the delivery of services and to influence policy through engagement, partnerships and taxpayer-transforming information and research.

Strategic programmes

NTA is currently implementing its strategic plan 2019-2023. Implementation of NTA's projects is anchored on the following four strategic programmes;

Strategic programme 1: Building citizen demand for accountability and strengthening government service delivery

The NTA has tested the potential that active citizens demanding accountability from the Government has. Our social accountability tools have contributed to improved economic and democratic accountability from the Government at both National and County levels.

This active voice of taxpayers must be lauded and its gains in the first term of devolution must be consolidated going into the second devolved Government phase.

Full implementation of laws stipulated in Kenya's constitution, 2010 at National level and domestication of some at county level will contribute to strengthened service delivery. Further, when the demand side is empowered and furnished with information, they will compel the supply side to improve Government services. This will greatly contribute to the public sector reforms at national and county levels that aim at monitoring and rewarding productivity.

Strategic programme area 2: Research, advocacy and policy influencing

NTA works closely with communities, civil society networks, government, and other stakeholders to identify key issues of concern for advocacy and policy influencing. NTA will continue to design strategies, take action and propose solutions that provide positive change for our stakeholders. Our focus is to influence policy, laws, regulations, programmes or funding for strengthened public services. NTA is focused in participating in the agenda setting, policy formulation and implementation, monitoring and evaluation. We work closely with existing and new networks to convene and amplify policy options. Media (both traditional and new media) and citizen journalists are key stakeholders that NTA engages in its work. Around this programme.

Strategic programme area 3: Tax justice

NTA positions itself to participate and influence discussions on domestic resource mobilization (DRM) at country, regional and international forums. It is focused on contributing to framing of national discussions on DRM in line with the Addis Ababa Action Agenda and Africa mining Vision. This is important as Kenya recently discovered oil and other extractive resources and the changing economic landscape due to disruptive technology and thus Kenya must adapt without compromising on its revenue base. Additionally, the distinction between the global south and north is diminishing as technology disrupts this line. Consequently, the "developing countries" must adapt and safeguard their taxing rights.

Strategic programme area 4: Institutional capacity strengthening

Organizational survival and growth depend on adapting to and influencing the changing environment, as well as on producing outputs that are valued by external stakeholders. This value is what enables the organization to be the top mind organization thus maintaining its relevance.

NTA has positioned itself to strengthen its governance, administration, human resources, financial management, program management and project performance management.

We take pride in being a learning institution and lessons over the previous strategic periods have served to strengthen and solidify our position as an accountability CSO.

Our technical approach

Community Engagement: The NTA approach is one of actively having the community at the heart of all the interventions. We rally and cheer the communities on, as they voice out and claim their rights. We are deliberate in having the visibility of the communities at the core of NTA's intervention. Currently, NTA is working with Sports teams, PWDs, and women facing exploitation/abuse.

Partnerships: It cannot be contested that there are myriad of issues that affect taxpayers in Kenya. For this to be efficiently and effectively tackled, one actor cannot bring change. Diverse actors need to come together to maximize resources, bring different expertise and guarantee impact.

Policy Influencing: Influencing is one of the most sustainable project implementation targets. NTA will work together with taxpayers and partners in our networks to identify key concerns and advocate for policy changes.

Sectoral areas of intervention

NTA focus on monitoring service delivery in the water, education and health service sectors. This has been informed by virtue of resources attached to the discharge of these functions. Secondly, the constitution guarantees their provision as social economic rights for the first time. It is thus important to monitor the implementation of these rights against the Vision 2030, SDGs and Agenda 4.

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