

## REQUEST

## REALITY TESTED YOUTH PROGRAMME

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Sekou Toure  
Director,  
Compliance Review and Mediation Unit (CRMU)  
African Development Bank (AfDB)  
Email: [s.toure@afdb.org](mailto:s.toure@afdb.org)

Dear Sir,

**RE: Complaints; Outer Ring Road Open Air Traders**

I write in regard to poor open air traders operating between Mathare River and Kariobangi Market who are project affected persons (PAPS) in the Outer Ring Road Improvement Project financed by the African Development Bank.

In 2014 open air traders realized that they were not factored in or mentioned in the *Outer Ring Road Environment and Social Impact Assessment and Appraisal* reports as PAPS yet it is well established that the traders have been there for long and that the road project will adversely impact their livelihoods. From the report, it is clear that open air traders were deliberately not recognized in the report by KURA. Yet, they are among the poorest to be affected by the road improvement project. The development of the list of PAPS did not appear to have been done in a transparent way.

In February 2014, we communicated to your office and KURA headquarters and your office was the first to respond to our petition on 22/4/2014 (Ref: CRMU/ST/LTR/2014/04/0006). KURA responded later through phone call and an official invitation email date:8/5/2014 meeting.

The meeting on 9/5/2014 was attended by 10 PAPS representatives, the KURA Project Co-ordinator, KURA Sociologist, and KURA Environmentalist and KURA Legal Officer. After long discussion, both teams, KURA and PAPS (open air traders), agreed to work together and resolve their differences amicably. The meeting resolved that;

- KURA officials would scrutinize and verify the more inclusive list for eligibility for compensation and inform the team
- Open air traders would form a working committee or representatives for future communication
- Reality Tested Youth Programme would provide details about its organization.

Later KURA organized an Outer Ring Road Consultative forum at Kariobangi Catholic Church, but no PAPs from our more inclusive list were ever invited. I and a few PAPs (open air traders) from the list attended the meeting after hearing about it from some of the affected traders whose names had been collected in 2012. After the consultative meeting, the open air traders were confused, and this caused a lot of anxiety. We decided that open air traders also fill Complaint Forms which we presented to KURA.

Since then, I have been nominated into the Grievance Redress Committee (2014), which has only met once at KURA offices with no any progress so far. It does not appear that KURA is taking these procedures seriously.

I, Peter Ndorongo and Maina Nguchu PAPs representatives (open air traders) have made several calls to KURA officials but it seems the issue of PAPs is being taken lightly and no clear information is being shared as no KURA official ever came to the ground to verify the eligibility of the excluded traders.

The open air traders feel cheated since the contractor has started working in their former location while issue of compensation has not been dealt with. This appears both unconstitutional and also a violation of African Development Bank principles on resettlement and compensation.

The open air traders feel that accepting jobs and vocational training skills opportunities before the issue of compensation is sorted out will be like betrayal to other traders since such opportunities are limited to only a few chances and there is no clear criteria for how to select beneficiaries.

We are kindly requesting your office to urgently consider the plight of the PAPs (open air traders) since they peacefully vacated the road corridor in the hope that their issues will be sorted according to AfDB policies when such projects are being undertaken.

I look forward to your response. Thank you.

Simon Kokoyo

RYP Representative: Simon Kokoyo – 0728665603

Paps Representatives: Peter Ndorogo – 0718510508  
Maina Nguchu – 0723079917  
Grace Mwendia - 0728847675