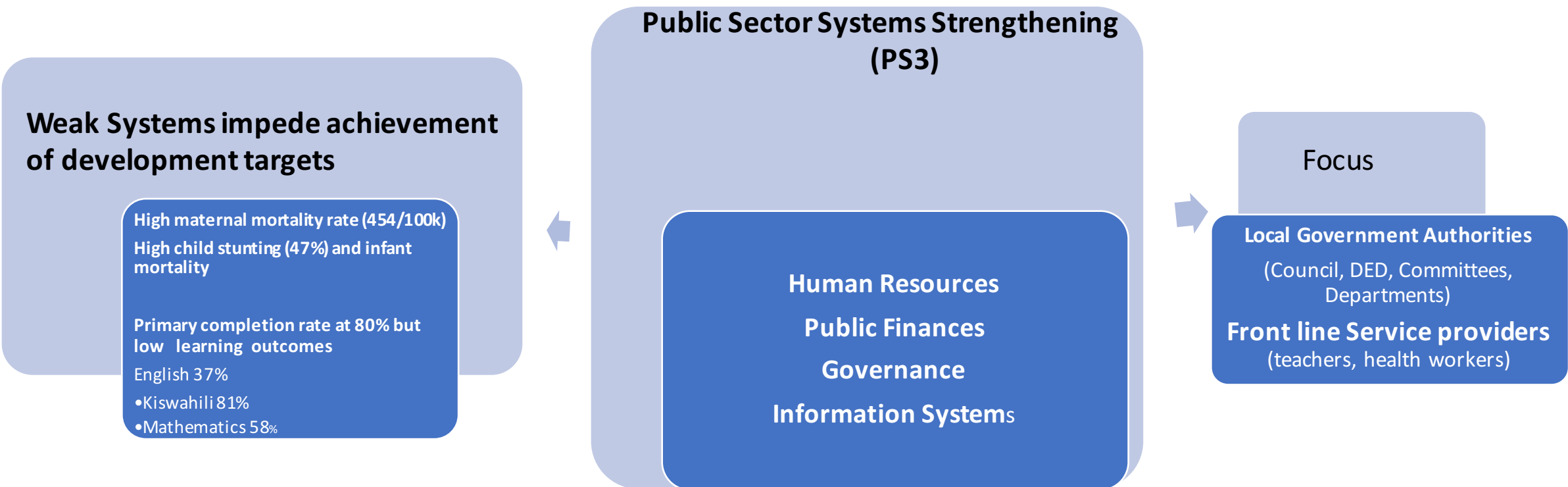


Open Government at the Subnational level: Implementation lessons from Tanzania

May 2018

Fenohasina Rakotondrazaka Maret

Urban Institute



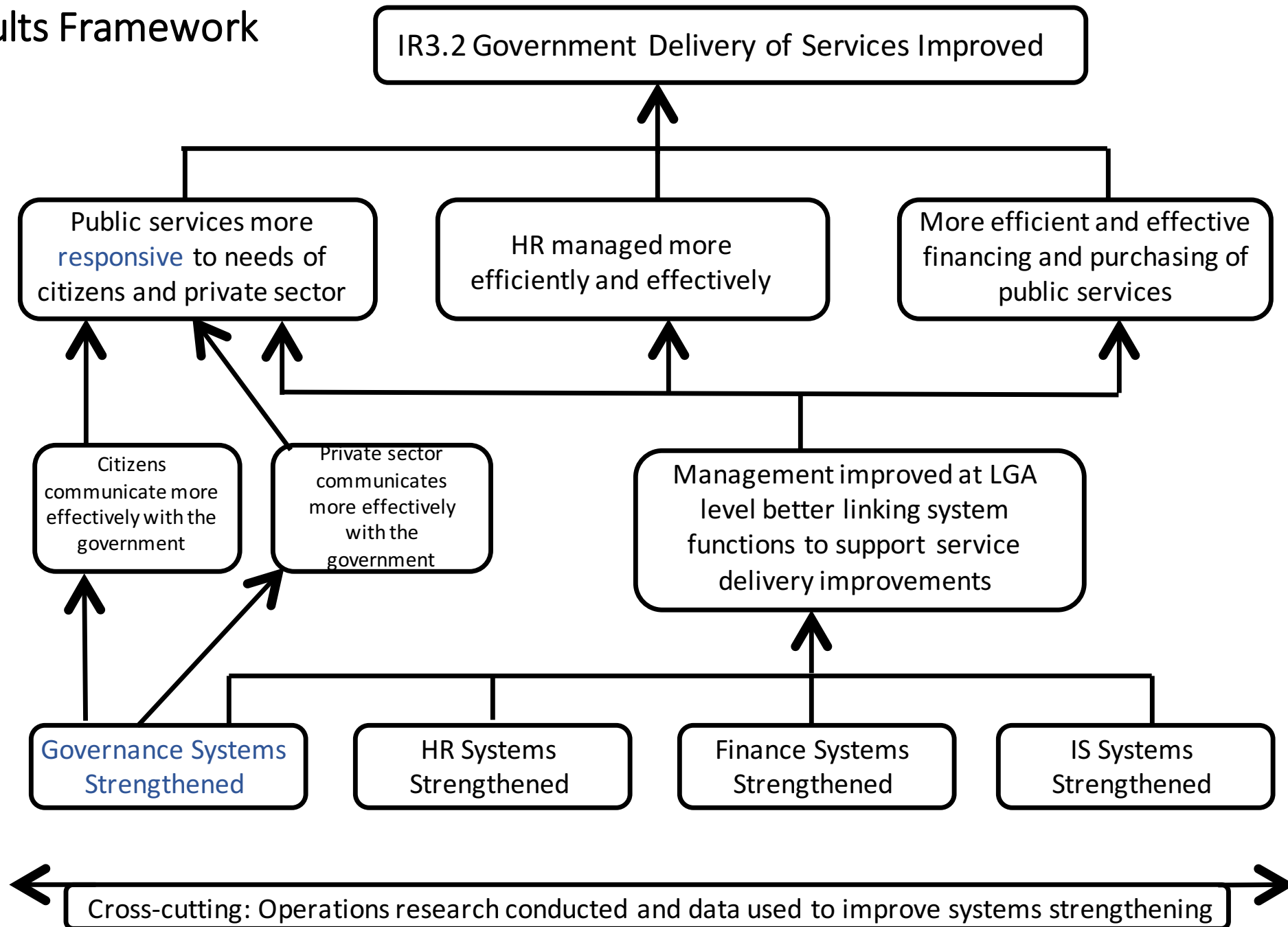
Coverage of PS3

26 Regions

97 LGAs out of 185



PS3 Results Framework



What is the idea behind the Government Website Framework at the Local level?

Instead of LGAs posting information only on a traditional noticeboard...



... GWF is a **tool** enable citizens to access information freely and timely.

Why open local government?

```
graph TD; A[Why open local government?] --> B[Making the governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens]; A --> C[Increase the availability of information about government activities in a timely manner]; A --> D[Support civic participation  
Support advocacy by interest groups and experts]; A --> E[Implement the highest standards of professional integrity throughout administrations]; A --> F[Increase access to new technologies for openness and accountability];
```

Making the governments more **open**, **accountable**, and **responsive to citizens**

Eliminate corruption

Improve service delivery

Increase the **availability of information** about government activities in a timely manner

Reduce information transaction costs

Uses of information for decision making

Support **civic participation**
Support advocacy by interest groups and experts

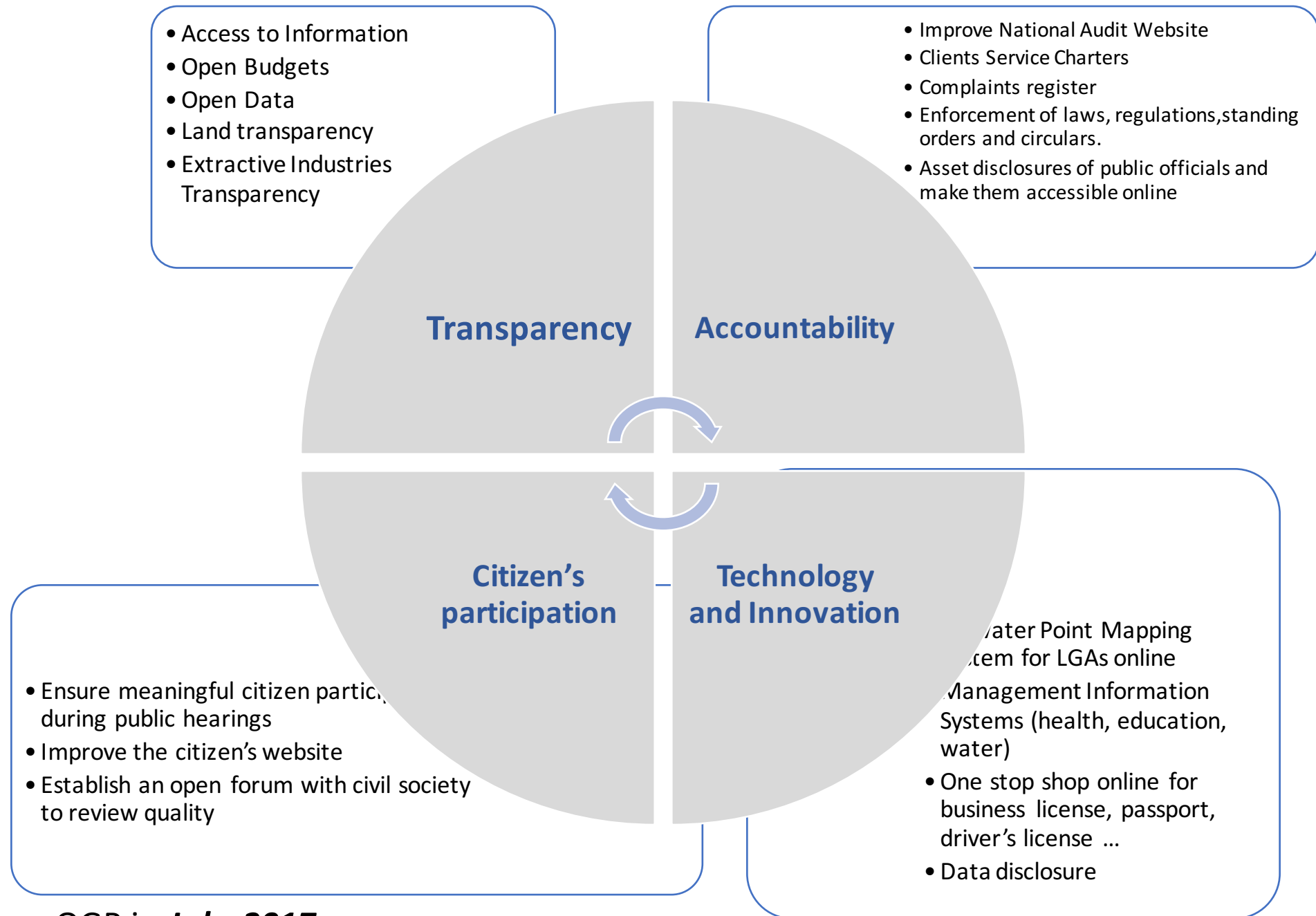
Implement **the highest standards of professional integrity** throughout administrations

Promote the image of RS/LGAs

Promote a shared vision

Increase access to **new technologies** for **openness and accountability**

Tanzania joined OGP in September 2011



Withdrew from OGP in **July, 2017**

Tanzania (withdrawn)

Joined 2011

The following text was contributed by the Government of Tanzania.

Tanzania joined the Open Government Partnership Initiative in September 2011. The intention is to make the Government business more open to its citizens hence improve public

[VIEW MORE](#) 🗨️

0 Current Commitments

0 Reviewed Commitments

Starred Commitments

0 starred commitments

Current Action Plan Thematic Focus

These are the themes that governments have focused on in their commitment development.

60% E-GOVERNMENT

40% NATURAL RESOURCES

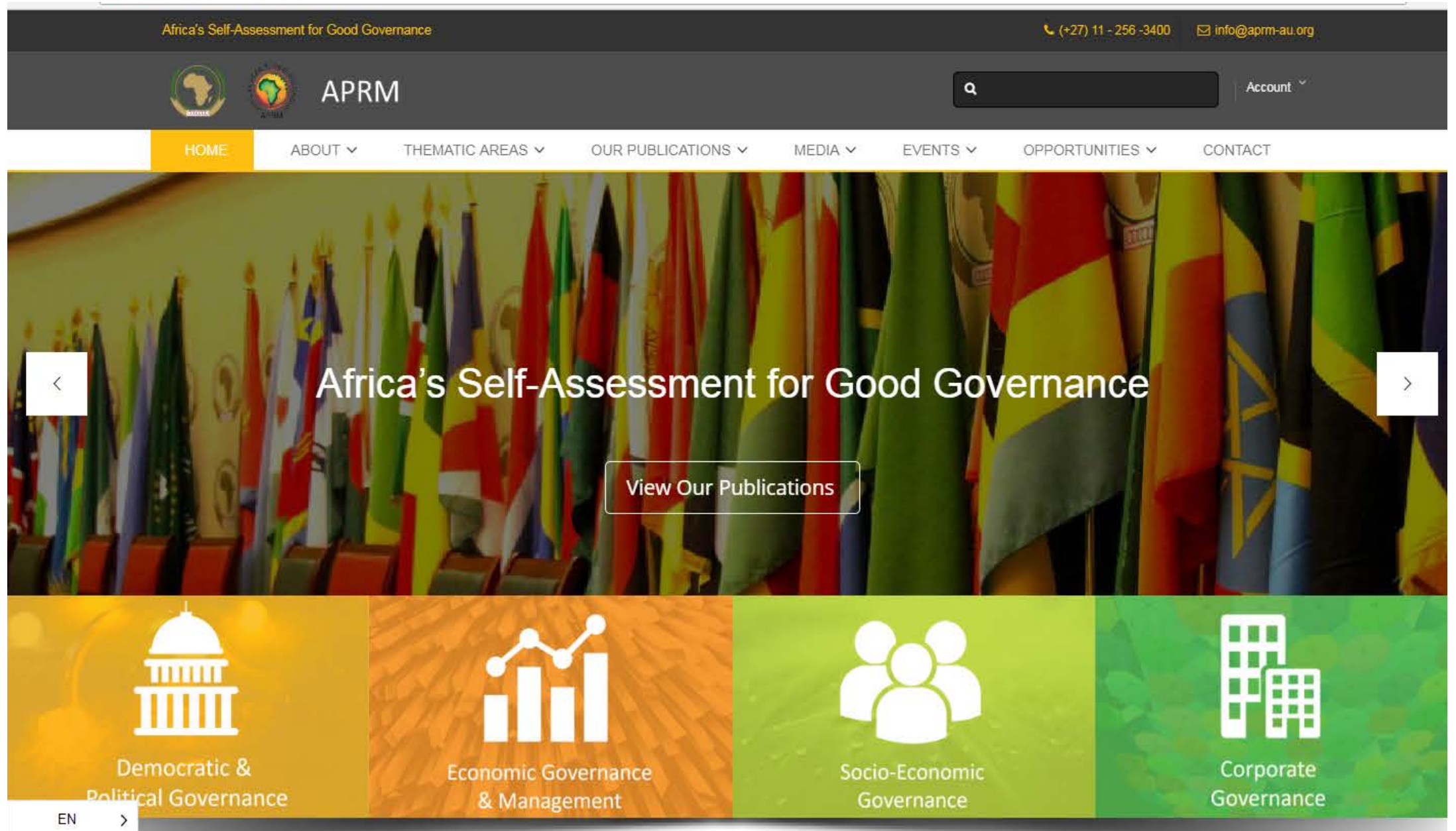
40% OPEN DATA

Commitment Completion

The IRM has evaluated commitment completion overall.

0% MID TERM PERCENTAGE

African Peer Review Mechanism



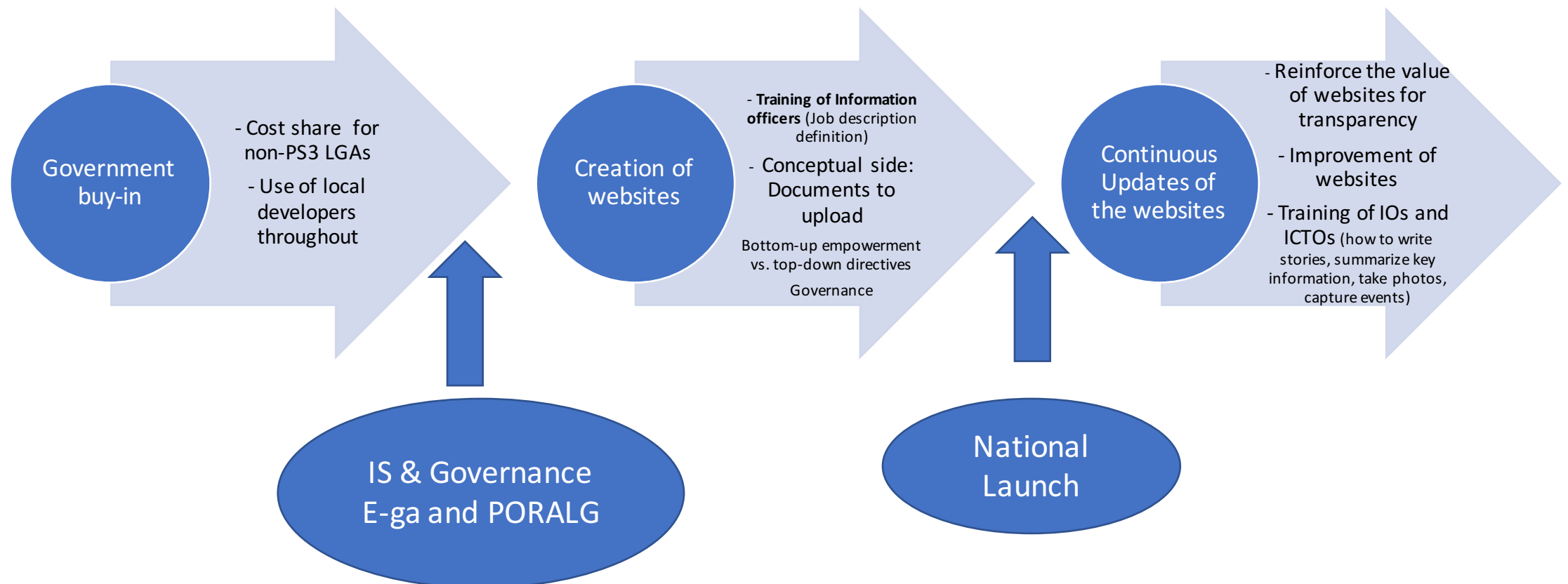
Research Questions

- Draw Lessons on
 - *Internal processes for generating and sharing information*
 - *What to expect with the “New Operations”?*
 - *External environment in terms of interested users of information such as the civil society, private sector, academics and ordinary citizens*

Methodology: implementation lessons

- Iterative approach of operations research
- Integrating learning into technical assistance
- Mostly qualitative analysis

Implementation timeline



Legal Foundation of the sharing of information

- For example, **article 18 (b), of the Constitution of the URT of 1977**, confers right to person to seek, receive and, or disseminate information regardless of national boundaries ; *(1) Every person has the right to freedom of expression, opinion and expression, and to seek, receive and impart or disseminate information and ideas through any media . . . and (2) Every citizen has the right to be informed at all times of various events in the country . . . which are of importance to the lives and activities of the people and also of issues of importance to society*
- **Section 52 of the Local Government Finances Act of 1982** empowers Regional Commissioners to issue direction to LGAs to publish their annual balance sheet, statement of abstract and report on accounts made and signed by auditors within their respective areas.
- **Section 33(1) of the Local Government Act (District Authorities) of 1982** also require Ward Development Committees (WDC) to disseminate information pertaining to *any development scheme or program that to all persons within the area of the ward of the details of the scheme or program and of the date, time and place upon which and when the persons liable to participate in its implementation shall report in order to so participate.*
- **Order 31 (9) of the Local Authority Financial Memorandum, 2009** requires LGAs to publish their audited statement of financial position and audited statement of financial performance within six months of the receipt of such reports from the auditor and after submission to the council. These reports are to be published at the LGAs offices and in local newspaper circulating within their respective area.
- **On the 20th of September, 2011 Tanzania joined Open Government Partnership (OGP)**
- **The Access to Information Act, 2016 Section 5** gives right to every person to have access to information that is under control of information holders. *Information holders in public institution or private bodies registered under any written law that utilizes public funds or possesses information that is of significant public interest have to deliver such information to the public unless such information has been exempted.*

List of documents to be shared

- PO-RALG's circular- *Ref. Na. BA. 254/307/01-* of 2nd of November, 2012 and issued to Regional Administrative Secretaries for transmission to LGAs for implementation.

Classification of Documents

Front facing

- open to all including citizens for LGA external documents

Internal portal

- requiring a password for LGA internal documents including management processes,

Documents listed in the Government's Circular

Local budget summary

Local expenditures

Local Revenues

Intergovernmental transfers

Treasury Disbursements

Sectoral Finances

Council Community need analysis report;

Strategic Plan and/ or MTEF

Approved budgets

Quarterly performance reports

Annual performance and final reports

HR plans and reports/HR needs assessment reports

Core Welfare Indicators Questionnaire (CWIQ) survey reports

Service Delivery Survey

National Budget Books

Full Council Minutes


Quarterly expenditure reports, approved by the Full Council

Financial Circulars, Directives, Workshop minutes, etc.


Final Internal Audit reports; incorporating Full Council resolutions

An example of the websites


[Malalamiko](#) | [Anuani Zetu](#) | [Maswali ya Mara kwa Mara](#) | [Barua pepe](#) | [Kiswahili](#) | [Search](#)




Jamhuri ya Muungano wa Tanzania
Ofisi ya Rais Tawala za Mikoa na Serikali za Mitaa
Halmashauri ya Wilaya ya Kilwa




[Mwanzo](#) | [Kuhusu Sisi](#) | [Utawala](#) | [Fursa za Uwekezaji](#) | [Huduma](#) | [Madiwani](#) | [Miradi](#) | [Machapisho](#) | [Kituo cha Habari](#) | [Mifumo](#)



Mh. Abuu Mussa Mjaka
Mwenyekiti Wa Halmashauri
[Wasifu](#)
[Ukaribisho](#)




Ndg. Zablon I. Bugingo
Mkurugenzi wa Halmashauri
[Wasifu](#)



Moja ya Magofu yanayopatikana katika Mji Mkongwe wa kihistoria Kilwa Kisiwani.

Habari Mpya


[Zaidi](#)

Matukio

[Zaidi](#)

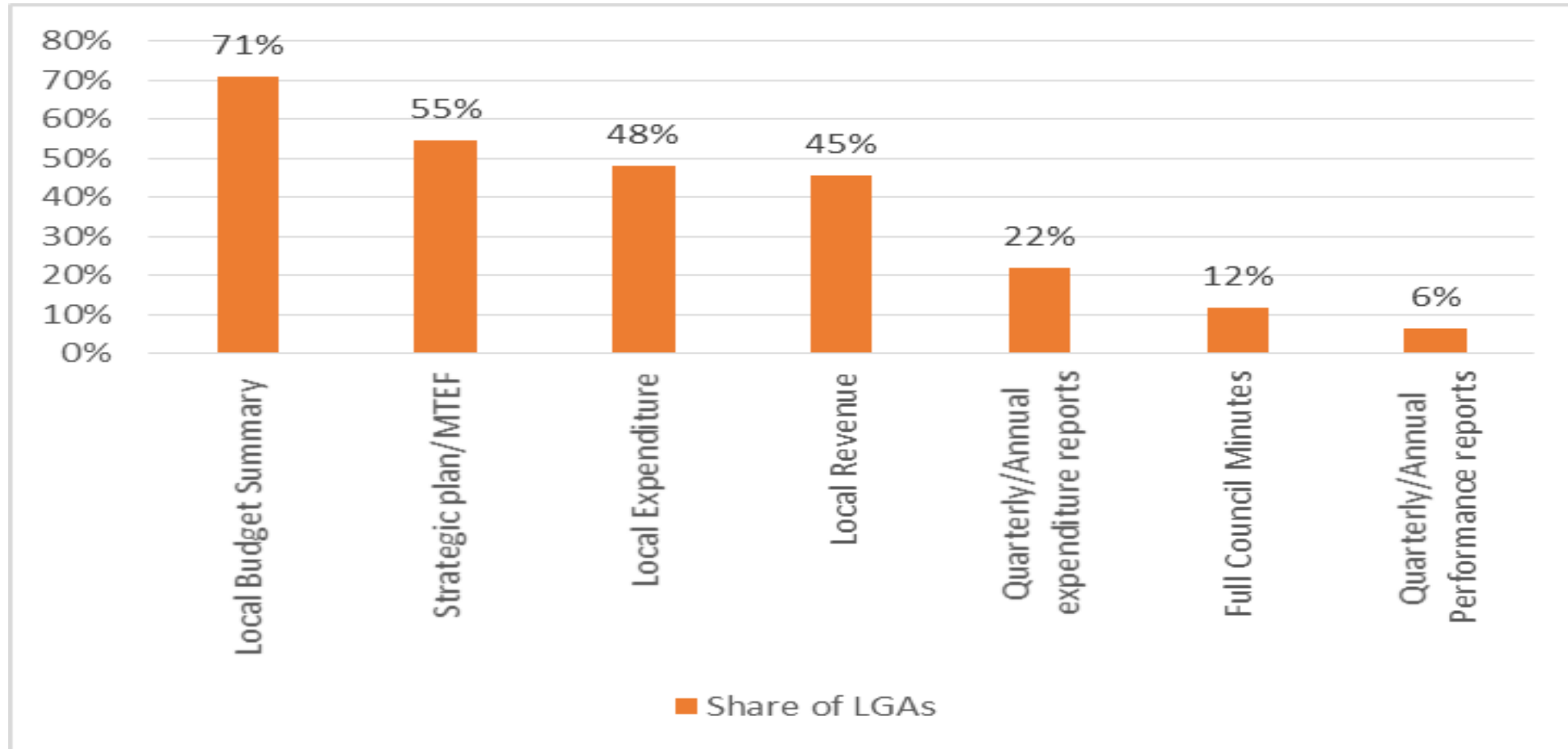
May 01	Siku ya wafanyakazi duniani (mei mosi) May 01, 2018 - May 01, 2018 06:00:am - 12:00:pm
Apr 26	Sikukuu ya muungano April 26, 2018 - April 26, 2018 06:00:am - 12:00:pm

Ramani ya Mahali

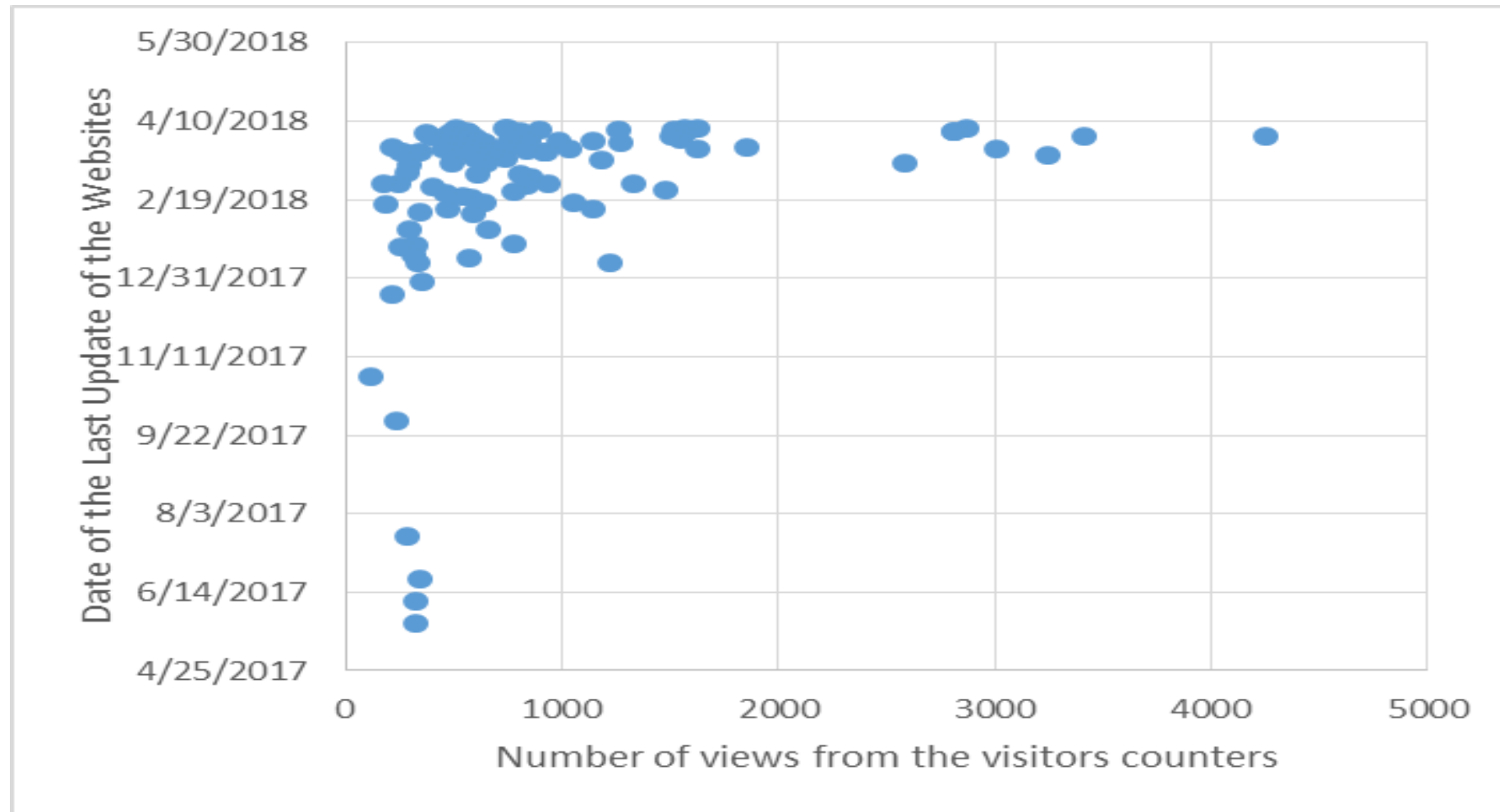


[38.5389124,9z/data=13m114b114m513m411s0x18f394b8236a7615:0x962e1c7ecfedb70918m213d-9.149699614d38.9876741](#)[Zaidi](#)

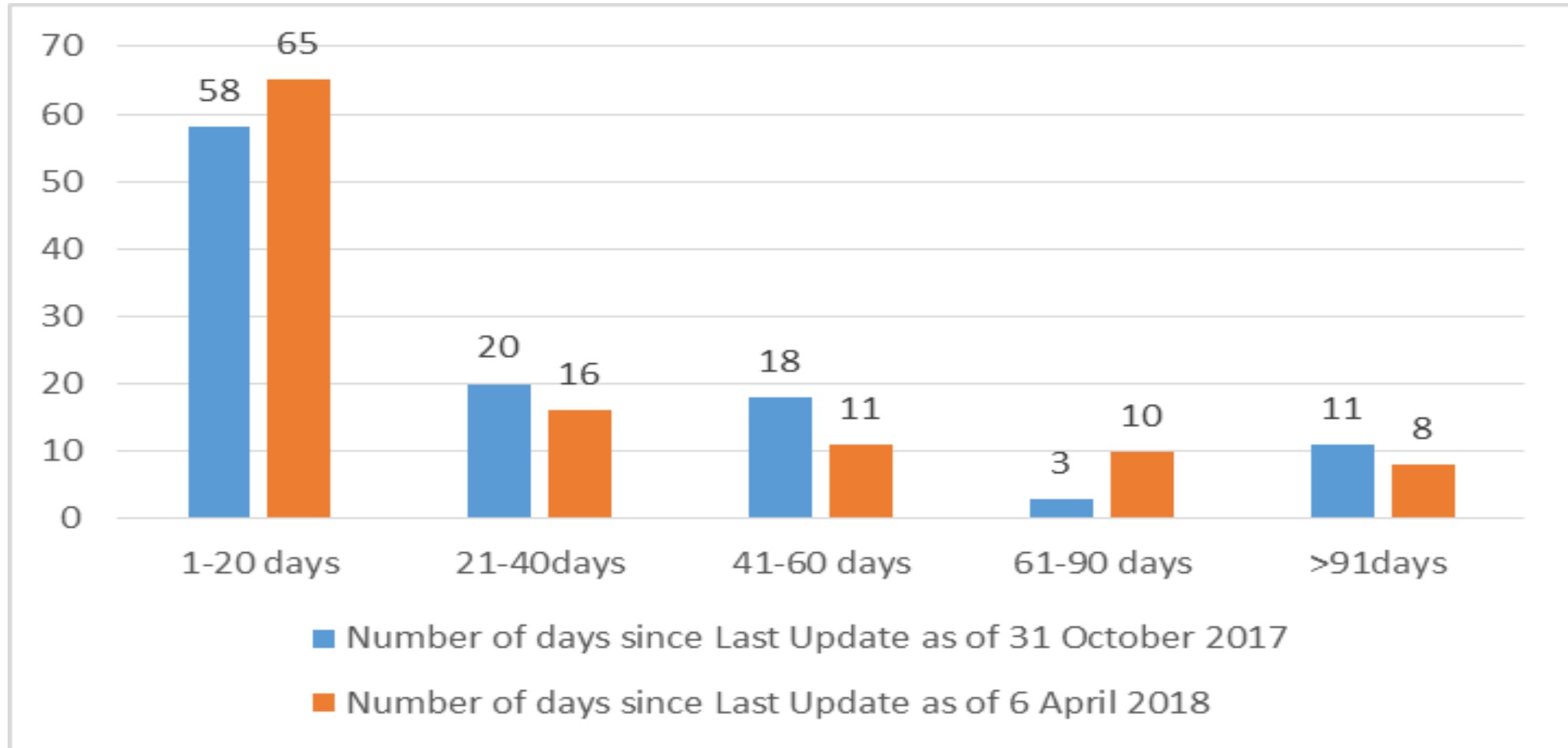
Achievements on the documents



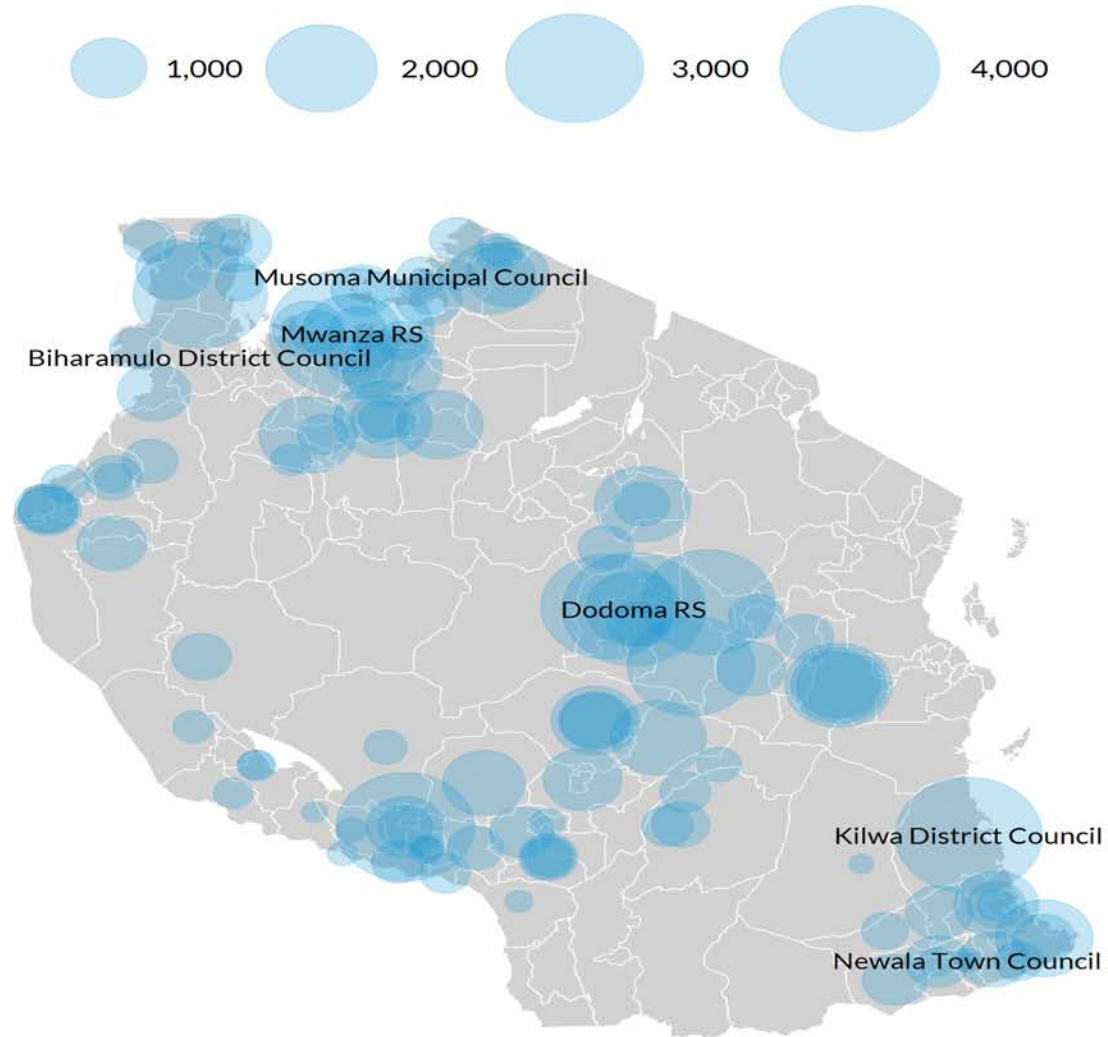
Usage Statistics: viewership and updates



Updates Statistics



Viewership by district



Implementation lessons

Leadership matters to spread a shared understanding of the importance of transparency/information sharing

Collaboration and trust matter

Top-down instructions nor circulars are helpful but are not sufficient

A clear vetting processes of information would avoid any confusion and excuses in sharing information

Information officers should be empowered.

In the long-run, **sustainability of the websites** as a tool for proving information will depend on **the demand and feedback emanating from usage**

Future Research Questions

Effectiveness of social accountability
With the websites, how much of the data ends up being used by CSOs and private sector to constrain government behavior?

Given the changing political landscape, what is the role of transparency?

Transparency Commitments at the national level vs. subnational

Sectoral distinction: how water makes more progress more than health in transparency

What are determinants of better implementation of the commitments:

- Demand-side: How does the participatory approach to building the action plan help?
- Supply Side: collaboration