

ABSTRACT

The paper is about the nature and scope of planning under the County Government Act No 17 2012. It focuses on preparing the plans covered in Sections 108, Section 109 and Section 110 this law. The bias is obviously, on methodology of preparing county integrated development plan (CIDP) given the importance placed on the plan in sustainable socio-economic development and environmental management under devolved system of government. The author's own practical experience and viewpoints on integrated (development) planning as a researcher and practicing planner has informed this focus. The paper has demonstrated that there are advantages in preparing CIDP, county sectoral plans (CSP) and county spatial plans (CSPP) under one county planning project or programme. The objective of this approach in the paper is to draw attention of conference participants to reflect and share their own practical experiences in integrated (development) planning during plenary discussions. A comment on city and municipal plans which are prepared under Section 111 is highlighted before possible structure of organization for county planning presented. One of the conclusions of the paper is that nature and scope of integrated, sectoral and spatial planning in the counties predispose CIDP, CSP and CSPP better prepared as one county planning project or programme and not as three separate projects/ programmes, one for each. The three plans share common phases and steps in the planning methodology which encompass CP-ISED and CP-TPKS models discussed in the paper. The paper makes a key recommendation, among others that, it is cost effective to prepare the three county-wide plans under one county planning project or programme and not as three separate undertakings as this has possibilities of saving counties significant percentage (%) proportion of the budget allocated for county planning.