A JUST PEACEFUL AND PROGRESSIVE SOCIETY

SEPTEMBER 2024

KENYA COMMUNITY SUPPORT CENTRE

PEMBENI ROAD
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MOMBASA

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WE CARE:

- COLLABORATION
- ACCOMPANYING
- RESPONDING
- EMPOWERMENT

ABOUT KECOSCE

The Kenya Community Support Center **(KECOSCE)** was founded in 2006 and has been working in the coastal region of Kenya, it was established to address democratic governance, socio-economic concerns with a focus on the coast of Kenya. The main purpose of Kenya Community Support Center (KECOSCE) is to inspire and facilitate a just peaceful and progressive society through Collaborating Accompanying, Responding and Empowering Communities (CARE) .



Message from the Executive Director

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"Welcome to the latest edition of the KECOSCE Newsletter! We bring you highlights from our ongoing Projects and Initiatives including Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action (JISRA), Resilience Peace and Stability (RPS), AMKENI WAKENYA Project and the K-Grant Small Grant Facility. We are excited to share the incredible impact these programs have had on our communities, focusing on the numbers reached and the significant changes achieved in line with our strategic goals. Kenya has made progress towards expanding freedoms, protection of minorities and inclusion of marginalized communities in the development of the country. During this period KECOSCE has directly implemented 5 Projects cumulatively reaching 2081 people directly and 150,000 people using our media outlets, KECOSCE has also undertaken various campaigns and initiatives towards implementation of the Strategic Plan. We remain committed to our vision and mission and adaptable to the changing context

OUR BENEFICIARIES ARE OUR PARTNERS FOR SELF RELIANCE AND SUSTAINABILITY

PROJECT	NUMBER OF PEOPLE REACHED
AMKENI WAKENYA;	377
ECCES	500
JISRA	305
REINVENT	411
RPS	488
KECOSCE Grant	2766
Grand Total (	**4847**

	MOMBASA	KWALE	KILIFI	TANA RIVER
Male	406	61	261	135
Female	351	81	221	133
Youth	146	60	247	154
PWDs	10	5	50	25
TOTAL	**913**	**207**	**779**	**447**

KECOSCE underpins the sustainability of its programs on the people we serve daily. During this period we reached 4847 people cumulatively, as disaggregated above, who continue to sustain the gains we have made so far

Championing the Women in Peace and Security Agenda (Localizing UNSCR 1325)

KECOSCE has facilitated local discussions in the implementation of County level Action plans that domesticate the National Action Plan that domesticates UNSCR 1325 on women in Peace Agenda.

This has been facilitated through the support of the Resilience Peace and Security Project in Mombasa and Kilifi and the Joint Strategic Religious Action in Tana River and Kwale, where women have been included in local peace structures such as Nyumba Kumi, community policing and peace committees . 4 out of the 9 Sub County Peace Committees in Kilifi are headed by women, 3 of the 6 in Mombasa and 2 of the 4 in Kwale.

The program has also supported Gender desk engagement between police and community increasing response to early warning information to 60% of issues sent to law enforcement actors. This has enhanced the protection of the rights of survivors of gender based violence with over 16 girls been rescued from child marriages, female genital mutilation and being reinstated back to school

Women leaders have now been included in traditionally patriarchal structures such as council of elders in Tana River and are advancing gender rights in dispute resolution. Read RPS story *http://surl.li/eoblmb*





Enhanced Police Accountability During protests

"KECOSCE EWER system monitored nationwide protests and collaborated with Independent offices/ Commissions to enhance accountability and protection of rights"

Through collaboration with the Independent Policing Oversight Authority (IPOA), the Ombudsman, and the Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR), the project facilitated accountability forums. These forums highlighted community concerns on policing and the actions of law enforcement in public order management during the country wide pro good governance demonstrations thus ensuring greater transparency and accountability from all actors, over 5 active cases have been pursued by the IPOA in the region touching on allegations of police excesses such as brutality, disappearances and death in police custody see story *http://surl.li/lzxtwb*



Hyper Local Climate Adaptation for Resilience building and poverty alleviation

KECOSCE has collaborated with local think tanks such as the Kenya Agricultural and Livestock Research organizations and county departments of environment and climate change by embracing a systems approach to climate adaptation in the Coast region. The organization has since increase awareness of local communities and stakeholders on locally viable and easy to implement interventions guided by the Participatory Risk Assessment reports generated by the counties.

KECOSCE is now supporting local community organizations to implement climate smart urban farming technologies such as Shade net and multi storey gardens in Mombasa , Kilifi and Kwale. The youth have been connected with agricultural extension services to grow high yielding crop varieties to reduce their vulnerability to climate change and improve local nutrition

KECOSCE has also embraced technology to sensitize over 400 community members on climate change, the climate governance and just transition initiatives—

See story ; *http://surl.li/sdzeme*





Youth on the frontline of Climate change discourse



Through capacity building and sensitization drives undertaken by KECOSCE in collaboration with local actors, youth are taking leadership in organizing and implementing interventions to enhance local climate adaptation measures. This collaboration has borne results that have led to the formation of a local network of actors in climate change in Mombasa, Kilifi and Kwale. The actors have convened a monthly series of webinars to sensitize communities and collaborated in the commemoration of the World Environment day through beach clean-ups, tree planting drives and sustainable waste management. The youth are also engaging in non convectional spaces such as on social media X-space, Instagram and you tube to sensitize more people in on climate change adaptation Read more *http://surl.li/lvpsre*

Utilization of Social media spaces to sensitize the public on climate change has increased the number of people reached

Expanded space for accountability in Climate Finance and Just Transition

The Climate Change CSOs Thematic Group in Mombasa under the leadership of YWCA and KECOSCE have lobbied county governments to expand the space for participation of Civil Society Groups in institutional frameworks, as a result the convener of the thematic group has been included in the County Steering Committee for Climate change to enhance oversight of implementation of the Action Plan, In addition 1 more member shall be include in the yet to be formed County Climate change Finance Board in line with the climate Finance ACT.

Nationally KECOSCE and the thematic group which is also part of the Coast Civil Society Network on Human Rights is organized to enhance representation of the Coast in the Financing of Locally Led Climate Action (FLLOCA) to enhance accountability and ensure just transition in climate change adaptation see story on actvity : *http://surl.li/exvthc*



Broadened Religious Freedoms through inter religious cooperation and anchoring on institutional frameworks

KECOSCE, through the JISRA project, continues to make strides in promoting religious tolerance and preventing violent extremism across Mombasa, Kwale, and Tana River counties. The project focuses on promoting religious tolerance through three primary pathways; Intra, Inter and extra religious dimensions. Within the Intra-religious pathway, the project has succeeded in fostering greater tolerance among individuals of different faiths, while also creating more opportunities for youth and women to assume leadership roles.

At the Inter-religious pathway there is now enhanced collaboration between religious actors, leading to joint efforts in implementing 3 County Action Plan in Mombasa Kwale and Tana River Counties. Concerns of religious leaders have been included in the report Task force for regulation of religious institutions in Kenya and await implementation to contribute to prevention of religious extremism. Read more JISRA stories

http://surl.li/xwjiew



Empowering urban youth through Digital Skills and access to government funding

The Commemoration of the International Youth Day themed From Clicks to Progress– Digitalization for socio-economic rights marked a pivotal moment in KECOSCEs campaign on empowering youth economically and anchoring them in society. Through this initiative KECOSCE organized engagement and sensitization forums between government Fund holders and at risk youth. 400 youth have been sensitized on existing government funding models with over 80 youth and women groups across 4 counties applying for the opportunities. The youth have also been sensitized on digital jobs and linked to the AJIRA Program to acquire the requisite skills for online employability. These initiatives are geared towards reducing youth vulnerability to Violent Extremism and reduction of urban poverty

View social media stories: *http://surl.li/cmtgkw*



Reducing crime and conflict through sports

KECOSCE has partnered with local Community Led organizations in Kwale and Tana River ; CHED Foundation and Jitahidi Youth Groups to organize local youth football tournaments for peace. These tournaments have been attended by about 1200 youth and engaged at risk youth in nurturing their talents as well as benefiting from peace talks by local interlocutors and security agencies. These activities have significantly reduced the crime rates in hotspost areas such as Tiwi and Ngombeni in Kwale and helped in briniging inter communcal tolerance in communities affected by climate induced conflicts in Hurara and Kurawa areas of Tana River.

"There is always an upsurge of violent crime and gender based violence during the school breaks, but this time the crime rate has been very low and the youth have collaborated with enforcement officers to ensure that the areas remained calm throughout the tournament. As a result a member of the organizing committee has been included in the local community policing committee of our police post in Ngombeni"



EFFECTIVE ENGAGEMENT OF COMMUNITIES AND INCLUSION OF MINORITIES IN GOVERNANCE

Through its inclusive governance and service delivery program KECOSCE is implementing the Amkeni Wakenya Project whose main aim is to strengthen civil society voices in policy making. Within the same program KECOSCE is also implementing the USAID funded Kenya Electoral Conflict Mitigation and Civic Education Support project in Kilifi and Tana River counties. During this period, KECOSCE has undertaken various interventions that have resulted into impressive results including; Increased public participation in budget and other county planning processes in Mombasa and Kilifi: collaborative efforts between CSOs, and the Department of Finance and Economic Planning have yielded positive outcomes in enhancing public participation within the Counties. Our programs both online and offline have reached approximately 150,000 with knowledge on the budget process thereby increasing the number of people participating in the processes and the quality of engagements 2 memorandums have been issued by state actors on the Annual Development Planning processes. Communities have continued to demand for improved service For Instance, in Ganda Ward in Malindi, the MCA has responded to demands for 2 public toilets in Pendukiani ECDE following advocacy and lobbying by the residents of that area who had been denied the right to education for close to 3 years. Read Amkeni Story- *http://surl.li/cvlrcp*



KECOSCE gets appointed in to the County Public Participation Committee in Kilifi

From the impressive work KECOSCE has undertaken in Kilifi in championing for inclusion of minorities in governance structures and opening avenues for transparent easily accessible Government, The County Government of Kilifi has appointed KECOSCE to be in the County Public Participation Stakeholders committee that shall advise the county government and stir public participation in Kilifi County. This is a great milestone as the organization will now elevate voices of civil society in the top most decision making echelon of the county and ensure that the voices of the silenced are heard and their interests included in governance processes. KECOSCE shall continue to champion for these initiatives in Kilifi and other coastal counties in Kenya



Changing legal regime and its implication on local programing

Since the operationalization of the Public Benefit Organizations Act 2013 in Kenya., KECOSCE has convened local experts to provide through leadership on the implication of the law on local programing for Civil Society actors. This has been followed with a series of sensitization forums to non state actors to enable them comply with the new law and put in place mechanisms for sustaining the sector . Likewise KECOSCE has conducted sensitization of the Community Organizations registration Act for local CBOs working within its KGRANT Facility.

Within the counties of our operation, We have ensured that actors operate within self-regulation mechanisms, In Mombasa KECOSCE is part of the leadership of the Coast Civil Society Network on Human Rights and a founding member of the Mombasa Community Development Trust, while in Kilifi KECOSCE has spearheaded self –regulation frameworks being implemented within the Kilifi Civil Society Network Read More of Self Regulation *http://surl.li/dykvvy*



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Find us on
X @KECOSCE FACEBOOK @KECOSCEMombasa

PHOTO GALLERY









