

Kakamega: Kaunti Kuimarisha Uendelevu

Information session recap



DATE: August 1, 2019

LOCATION: Kakamega Golf Hotel

TOTAL ATTENDEES: 101*; 42% women

including

15 individuals

28 community-based organizations

0 county government officials

7 private businesses

9 non-governmental organizations

2 youth groups

1 women's group

16 cooperative societies

3 trusts

* Expect a discrepancy in the total – only a sample of participating categories is listed in this box.

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED DURING MEETING

- **Limited access to information and skills.** Limited access to information and knowledge on governance, modern agricultural methods and technical skills
- **Limited access to essential health services.** Limited access to health services including maternal, neonatal, mental, HIV/Aids and family planning health services, as well as limited access to affordable health care
- **Low education and employment.** High teenage pregnancy, school dropout and youth unemployment rates.
- **Poor leadership and governance.** This has contributed to high levels of corruption, poverty, and food insecurity as well as low access to essential services such as water, financial services, and education, and high levels of insecurity and gender-based violence.

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- **Information and knowledge gaps.** Reaching out to communities through village elders, leaders, religious groups, social media, stakeholders forums, public participation and creating education centers to provide them with proper knowledge and skills on how they can utilize available resources.
- **Health services constraints.** Improving health financing, purchase the necessary health commodities, and improve health infrastructure. For mental health problems, participants



suggested provision of psycho-social support and care, increased mental health commodities and education in hospitals, the establishing functional rehabilitation and youth-friendly centers. They also proposed increasing health subsidies to boost affordability of services and training more midwives to curb high child mortality rates.

- **High unemployment rates.** Creating direct and self-employment opportunities, avenues for apprenticeship, and entrepreneurship savings and investments for women and youth. Ensure inclusivity of all groups including the disabled in job allocation and establishing revenue-generating entities to boost employ youth employment.
- **High teenage pregnancy and school dropout rates.** Creating awareness on the importance of education, initiating feeding programs in schools to motivate students, lobbying for funds and bursaries to students and meaningfully engaging the youth as possible remedies.
- **Poor leadership/governance and corruption.** Ensuring transparency and accountability in use of funds and other resources by duty-bearers, embracing good practices to set a good example in the society, upholding integrity and transparency, improving on civic education, advocacy and enforcement of the Public Participation Act, recovery through the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and punitive measures to be taken in corruption cases.
- **Poverty.** Establishing economic empowerment programs and by pooling resources to empower members of the society.
- **Food insecurity.** Setting up and improving existing kitchen gardens to boost food security, improving knowledge and skills on crop production and harvesting, and promoting agribusiness. Participants also suggested supplying farm inputs to families, increasing and improving on-farm outputs storage systems, value addition and establishing and strengthening SACCOs.
- **Water scarcity.** Developing water resources and enforcing water laws to help boost water supply and streamline access.
- **Access to financial resources.** Linking communities to sources of funds and reducing hurdles in the process, procedure and requirements in funds applications.



For questions, please visit the full solicitation:
<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?opId=317009> or email kauntiaps@usaid.gov.