

Mombasa: Kaunti Kuimarisha Uendelevu

Information session recap



DATE: August 8, 2019

LOCATION: Pride Inn Paradise

TOTAL ATTENDEES: 106*; 49% women including

4 individuals

49 community-based organizations

0 county government officials

17 private businesses

17 non-governmental organizations

1 youth groups

4 women's groups

2 cooperative societies

1 trust

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

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED DURING MEETING

The following were some of the challenges that came out from the group discussions in order of priorities.

- **Governance.** poor planning, corruption, limited access to information and meaningful engagement with the government and lack of accountability
- **Insecurity and youth unemployment.** This related to violent extremism and radicalization.
- **Drug and substance abuse.**
- **Other challenges.** These included solid waste management and pollution, poor infrastructure, health, gender-based violence, poverty, and lack of access to safe water.

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- **Poor governance.** Enhancing public participation by partnering with CSOs to ensure communities and other stakeholders are involved in planning, enhancing access to information through advocacy and lobbying for legislative reforms, and enhancing monitoring and evaluation of projects at the community level.
- **Insecurity and youth unemployment.** Addressing high rates of unemployment by building youth capacity on entrepreneurship, financial literacy, life skills, and income generation and helping them to access capital. Participants also proposed developing maskani spaces¹,

¹ A local program led by the Youth of Shela Village and Lamu Town focused on giving young people in the area a space to call their own. Weekly workshops take place to connect Youth to employment, education, and volunteer opportunities.



strengthening “nyumba kumi”² programs, meaningfully engaging the youth in activities such as theatre, and strengthening family and parental care and values. Participants also proposed establishing organizations that create awareness on security, addressing negative mindsets and promoting attitude change through frequent sensitization and continuous mentorship.

- **Drug and substance abuse.** Introducing Needle and Syringe Programs (NSP) and Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinics, opening talent centers, and an information hub to help curb drug use and offer counseling support services. Participants also proposed lobbying and advocating for strict laws against drug and substance abuse.

Other challenges: infrastructure, health, gender-based violence. On health, participants proposed advocating for enrolment to NHIF (universal health coverage), development of health infrastructure, increment of health workforce, promotion of community health centers and promotion of public health. They proposed the establishment of community safe spaces for youth, children and women to help end gender-based violence.



For questions, please visit the full solicitation:

<https://www.grants.gov/web/grants/view-opportunity.html?oppld=317009> or email kauntiaps@usaid.gov.

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² Swahili for “ten houses” – an initiative through which community members contribute to their own security by being aware of their neighbors and reporting anything unorthodox, particularly in relation to terrorist activities.

