

Nyeri: Kaunti Kuimarisha Uendelevu

Information session recap



DATE: July 31, 2019

LOCATION: White Rhino Hotel

TOTAL ATTENDEES: 104*; 27% women including:

- 33 individuals,
- 34 community-based organizations,
- 11 county government officials
- 6 private businesses
- 8 non-governmental organizations
- 0 youth groups
- 0 women's groups
- 3 cooperative societies
- 0 trusts

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

DEVELOPMENT CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED DURING MEETING

Participants cited the following development challenges in order of priority:

- **Water shortage.** Lack of water for irrigation, lack of water harvesting mechanisms and slow regulation of water resources contribute to water shortage.
- **Agriculture management.** lack of a structured agriculture value chain and food insecurity.
- **Youth unemployment.** This is largely the result of lack of relevant skills.
- **Environmental degradation.** This was attributed to poor forest conservation.
- **Other challenges.** High prevalence rates of non-communicable diseases such as cancer, diabetes and hypertension, poor quality of education, high levels of sexual and gender-based violence, and prevalent drug and other substance abuse.

PROPOSED SOLUTIONS

- **Water shortage.** Water harvesting (rainwater and surface runoff), building dams and storage tanks and repairing water pipes. Participants also proposed increasing forest cover by rehabilitating water catchment areas and conserving existing forests.
- **Agriculture management.** Mechanization, and use of appropriate technologies such as certified seeds and inputs, promoting value addition, connecting farmers to markets, promoting smart agriculture, and water harvesting for irrigation.
- **Youth unemployment.** Participants proposed the establishment of youth empowerment, talent development, mentorship and skills development programs as well as entrepreneurship



and agribusiness skills-building programs. They further proposed creating cottage industries - including local value addition industries - and creating a youth-friendly environment that encourages innovation and helps build technical skills.

- **Environmental degradation.** Agroforestry and afforestation as a remedy to environmental degradation in the County
- **Poor quality of education.** Economic empowerment of households e.g. through avocado farming to provide finance for education, rebranding Technical, Industrial, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training (TIVET) institutes, offering sponsorship for technical training and educating parents on the importance of supporting children's education.
- **Sexual and gender-based violence.** Participants proposed inculcating positive cultural and family values, addressing drugs and substance abuse, and job creation as possible solutions to this challenge.
- **Drug and substance abuse.** Participants proposed the establishment of drug addiction and alcoholism rehabilitation centers and associated awareness programs, as well as enforcing the relevant laws.



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