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PLACE

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Siasa Talks Report

Kericho County Follow Up Meeting





Kericho Follow Up Meeting

1.0 | INTRODUCTION

The meeting was held on 25th October 31, 2018 at Sahara Gardens Hotel, Kericho with Inter-Party Youth Forum (IPYF) – Kericho as the convener. The meeting started at 9:30AM with a prayer from one of the participants, Mr. Keter Brian. The Meeting brought together 3 Youth MCAs, youth leaders and representatives of Siasa Place to follow up on youth inclusion policy that had been identified as a key issue of concern during the previous Public participation training. The meeting was to provide an opportunity for an in-depth discussion on how to come up with Inclusion Policy.

Siasa place also introduced a new program called Imara Africa leadership that was to be implemented in collaboration with the county government of Kericho. The program seek to invest in Africa's future policy leaders to ensure that they are grounded with values of integrity, social empathy, creativity and public participation.

And that the program brings together young people from across the country, with the aim of imparting the necessary knowledge and skills required in the public service as 'service'. By the end of it, these young leaders will champion the culture of meaningful public participation and responsive National and County Governments. The First Cohort which is targeted to run from September 2018 to July 2019 will focus on County Governance.

2.0 | OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the meeting was to:

- Give feedback to leaders on the issue identified during the previous public participation meeting
- Involve stakeholders (political leaders, youth leaders and CSOs) in coming up with inclusion policy
- Map out other stakeholders who will be crucial in the process of inclusion policy formulation

3.0 | FIRST SESSION: WELCOMING REMARKS BY POLITICAL LEADERS

The meeting started with a round of introduction where participants were expected to say their names and what they expected from the meeting. Their expectations included how to partner with

the county government, gain knowledge of policy making processes, share experience and know what the county was currently doing.

The meeting proceeded to give opportunity to the youth MCAs to do a welcoming remark. Hon. Erick Bii, Member of County Assembly representing the Youth in the Kericho County Assembly welcomed the team to Kericho and appreciated the effort so far. He identified various challenges including lack of sound youth policies, youth unemployment and lack of effective youth programs to address the challenges being faced by the youth. He pledged his support and rally his colleges in the assembly to support the initiative of making an inclusion policy.

Hon. Erick Bett further noted that more than half of the MCAs in the County Assembly were Youth and had been very positive on youth matters in the past hence would give the inclusion policy the attention it deserves. He identified the need to involve the youth affairs committee and the legal team from the assembly in the process. He further pledge to support and committed to be the link between the initiative and the County assembly. Hon. Winnie, on the other hand urged the participants that more players were needed for the intended policy to be more effective. She also committed to support the process

4.0 | SECOND SESSION: REFLECTION FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The participants were asked if they still thought if inclusion policy was necessary as it came out during the previous meeting. 13/13 Participants noted that it was necessary and further explained that if there's a policy supporting Youth involvement then their participation and engagement with the County government will also increase.

The leaders were then asked if there was an inclusion policy or if the county was working on one. They responded that the county did not have any and that there was none in the process. He informed the meeting that the Assembly was lagging behind and had not passed any bills or policies since they started the year save for the mandatory bills like finance bills. The meeting was then asked to identify the people they thought would be needed in the process. The meeting proposed both government and non-government as presented in the table below:

Government	Non-government
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Legal Committee of the County Assembly and the County Attorney (The MCAs present promised to help reach out to these teams. • The Youth MCAs/Kericho County Assembly • Ministry of ICT, Youth Affairs, Education and Sports • Office of the Governor • Office of the Speaker • Office of the Senator 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Youth of Kericho County from all the Sub-counties • Siasa Place • Centre for Enhancing Good Governance & Democracy • Konrad Adineur Stiftung (KAS) & National • Democratic Institute (NDI) – (They work with IPYF Kericho Chapter)

The meeting also identified the possibility of the following challenges being experienced during the policy formulation

- The executive failing to support the process or sabotaging
- Lack of coordination among the youth working around the same thing
- Inadequate resources being the county had not allocated the resources towards the same and high demand on awareness creation that is expected during the process
- Implementation policy may be a problem if the implementers are not adequately involved
- Failure by partners to fulfil their part in the process of developing the policy
- Apathy among the youth where they may demand to be paid for them to participate in the development of the policy
- Lack of capacity among the stakeholders in policy making or drafting

5.0 | AREAS OF CONCERN

The meeting identified the need to do several other things including the following,

- Public awareness creation on why the policy is necessary and the importance of public participating in its making and implementation
- The need for the youth to coordinate and work with stakeholders in policy making. The need for the youth to develop a platform through which they will share information and track progress
- Political leaders asked to be capacity build in policy making as some does not have the capacity while resource have also been a challenge to enable involvement of youth in the process
- Need to develop a framework for the formation of inclusion policy with required activities
- The need to create a working relation between the political leadership, youth leadership and other stakeholders in the formation and implementation of all other laws that are of help to the young people
- The need to expand the scope of inclusion by working with persons with disability, minority groups and other people who are generally not included in other normal programs
- The need to involve the executive from the inception to help them support the program at the end

6.0 | WAY FORWARD

The meeting thereafter agreed on the following

- The youth MCAs to mobilize committee responsible for inclusion in the assembly to meet with the youth leaders on 6/11/2018 to discuss how to come up with the policy
- The youth leaders from non-state actors to map out all other non-state actors who would add value into the process and work towards inviting them after the 6th November meeting. The mapping report to be shared on 6th November meeting
- The youth MCAs to lobby both the executive and the implementers including the legal team to also be part of the process
- The need for both team to identify and come up with process during the 6th November meeting

ANNEX 1 | LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Name	Gender	Orgnaization
Chepkirui Brenda	F	YSK
Vincent Kingeno	M	ELF
Mercy Chepkemoi	F	IPFY
Frankline Mutai	M	YSK
Winnie Koros	F	IPYF
Daniel Ronoh	M	ELF
Edwin Cheruiyot	M	YSK
Sylvia Rono	F	ELF
Brian Keter	M	IPYF
Kibet Victor	M	IPYF
Eric Bii	M	MCA
Eric Bett	M	MCA
Winnie Langat	F	MCA
Ken Ogembo	M	Siasa Place
Grayson Marwa	M	Siasa Place

GALLERY



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