



# **BASELINE SURVEY**

**Strengthening the Power of  
Youth Voices Project**

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

The Evaluation Team would like to acknowledge the support and cooperation of the officials and youth in the six counties which form the focus of the Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices (SPYV) project. The counties are Busia, Homabay, Kericho, Kitui, Lamu, and Nairobi.

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## **ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS**

ADP	Annual Development Plan
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CECM	County Executive Committee Member
CO	Chief Officer
CIDP	County Integrated Development Plan
CMD-Kenya	Centre for Multiparty Democracy – Kenya
CoK	Constitution of Kenya
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
KDHS	Kenya Demographic and Health Survey
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LOGFRAME	Logical Framework
MCA	Member of County Assembly
MMA	Mixed Methods Analysis
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NACOSTI	National Council of Science, Technology and Innovation
NGOs	Non-Governmental Organization
NSA	Non-State Actors
NYC	National Youth Council
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SPYV	Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices
TOR	Terms of Reference
UDA	United Democratic Alliance

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# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

## Background Information on the Project

The Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices (SPYV) project is a 4-year initiative targeting adolescents, young women and young men between 15 and 35 years old, through existing organized community-based groups. The project intends to work with County authorities (both the Executive and Assembly wings), especially the relevant departments responsible for public participation.

The project seeks to respond to some of the challenges identified empirically through analysis of data from various secondary sources addressing different challenges faced by the youth in the governance sector in Kenya. Three key issues that stood out from this are;

- a) Lack of knowledge and limited information, ignorance or non-compliance to the frameworks for youth inclusion by state and non-state actors
- b) Lack of robust frameworks of engagement, within counties, through which youth can articulate their grievances
- c) Marginalization and stereotyping of youth by those in authority

This project is being implemented by Siasa Place and Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD-Kenya), with funding from the Embassy of Netherlands, in Kenya. The project shall be implemented in six counties. The broad selection criteria of the counties is those with a trend of high/low resource allocations from the National Treasury, high youth population but low youth public participation and are urban/rural with diverse economic opportunities available. These counties are Busia, Homabay, Lamu, Kericho, Kitui, and Nairobi.

## Overview of the Baseline Survey Consultancy

Siasa Place commissioned a call for a consultant to conduct the baseline survey, towards understanding the current prevailing situation in those counties, giving insights in how best to (re)design the intended interventions, and strengthening the project's results framework.

The purpose of the consultancy was to establish comprehensive baseline information on the state of youth voices and the levels of youth engagement in governance issues in the six target counties. The generated information will be critical in keeping track of the progress made during the life of the project in the next 4 years. Additionally, this consultancy will provide an insight into the existing capacity gaps amongst the youth and the county systems they operate in, therefore guide the project team in tailor-making interventions for each county.

## Methodology

Broadly, the evaluation employed a Mixed Methods Approach (MMA) that is also complexity-aware and inclusive. The reason for this is because of the multi-layered nature of the project, the target beneficiaries and

the profile of the data that was required to meet the minimum demands of quality.

Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected using both primary and secondary approaches that were participatory. Primary data was collected through interviews with Key Informants, select youth group members, and by way of youth filling questionnaires via KOBO Collect, a mobile-based platform for data collection.

Secondary data was collected through extensive literature review of various documents including project proposal and logical framework, County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs) for the target counties, and other government policy documents that address issues of youth engagement in political and civic processes.

## Sampling

Respondents who were listed as Key Informants were purposively selected, owing to the strategic positions they occupy and the information that they hold – all of them being in charge of the youth docket in their respective counties. These included County Executive Committee Members (CECMs), Chief Officers (COs), Directors of Youth conducted

The youth groups from the six counties were randomly selected, as long as they met the inclusion criteria of being groups bringing together youth resident in those counties.

## Findings

### Findings on Goal/Impact Level Indicators

There are many youth serving organizations in Kenya, ranging from international ones, to national level ones followed by county level ones and further down to Community Based Organizations (CBOs). These organizations have different capacities, operate within a generally stable environment and make unique contribution to the quest for deepening youth inclusion and meaningful participation in political and civic processes.

Some of the ways youth-serving organizations have helped to ensure youth access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities are as follows:

- Promoting youth participation in politics and civic education as well as advocating for laws and initiatives that support youth empowerment are all examples of advocacy for youth representation in politics and decision-making processes. This can assist in ensuring that youth have a voice in the political process and the opportunity to shape policies and programs that affect their lives.
- Providing civic education and training: A lot of youth-serving organizations educate and train young people in civic matters, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and abilities to engage in politics and fight for their rights and interests.
- Supporting youth-led development: A number of youth-serving organizations support youth-led development by giving young people access to funding, training, and other resources to enable them to design and carry out their own development projects.
- Monitoring and reporting on violations of youth rights: Some youth-serving organizations monitor and report on violations of youth rights, which can help to raise awareness and draw attention to issues that

need to be addressed.

- Providing litigation services to aid youth navigate the justice system, with all its vagaries

Going forward, the following factors will be key drivers in how the youth, in Kenya, meaningfully engage in political processes;

- Economic development and youth employment: As the economy expands, pressure to provide opportunities and work for young people is likely to grow. This could motivate initiatives to assist youth-led development and to encourage youth employment and entrepreneurship.
- Political stability and democracy: Political violence has a history in Kenya, especially during election seasons. There may be a better atmosphere for youth involvement in governance concerns if the nation continues to experience political stability and democratic advancement.
- Decentralization and devolution: With 47 counties and a devolved system of government, Kenya has a decentralized system of governance. Youth participation in local governance may increase if county governments continue to strengthen their capabilities and perform more efficiently.
- Technology and social media: The next ten years are likely to see continued rapid advancements in technology and social media, which might have a big impact on how engaged young people are with political issues. Mobile and social media platforms can be effective instruments for youth participation, giving young people fresh opportunities to connect, band together, and fight for the things they care about.
- Inclusion and gender: young women and girls must have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development. Gender inequality is still a serious problem in Kenya. Closing the gender and inclusion gaps can lead to more successful and long-lasting development results for everybody.
- Climate change: Since Kenya is particularly susceptible to its effects, finding a solution in the upcoming ten years will be essential. Since young people are most impacted by this problem, they ought to be included in governance and decision-making about climate change.

## Findings on Outcome Level Indicators

Our findings show that there exist safe spaces, to the extent that there are no immediate and manifest dangers to the youth who engage with political actors in the county. However, these spaces are not institutionalized. There is no clear framework that defines these spaces in a way that makes them known and usable by the youth. Where they exist, they are ad hoc in nature. The counties do not have a clear social media policy, much less how this should be used to engage the youth. Interactions on social media are disjointed and fragmented, thereby lacking a consistent model of engagement.

There is a mixed bag when it comes to counties having both public participation frameworks and youth policies. Busia, Homabay and Kericho have draft bills which were never processed through the County Assembly. Lamu and Kitui have Acts but operationalization has been a problem due to limitations in finances and lack of political will. Nairobi's case is unclear. When it comes to Youth Policies, the counties either have moribund policies or none at all.

The capacity building programmes targeting the youth are built around skills enhancement, the arts,

sports, ICT, and vocational education. Currently, all the six counties are at the finalization and validation stages in the development of their CIDPs, which contain detailed information on the capacity building programmes.

## Findings on Output Level Indicators

On the question of youth participation in public forums, the county officials were in agreement that there is low literacy on the opportunities for public participation and their timings on the calendar of activities across the year. For instance, knowledge on the budget making cycle is low to none. This deprives many youth the chance to contribute to the development priorities of the county for the next financial year.

Information on existence of community centered accountability mechanisms is scanty. Notwithstanding, there is evidence of instances where communities mobilize themselves to demand for services in instances where the county or national government is lax. Isolated protests are reported where citizens picket, demanding for better roads, provision of security, and better returns on their agricultural goods, amongst other things.

The wide-ranging nature of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), with 17 goals and 169 targets, means that in one shape or form, the CIDPs will have articulations of the aspirations in the SDGs. However, resource constraints and other pressing demands limit the counties in terms of deliberate and targeted efforts to meaningfully focus on implementation of the SDGs.

There are many youth groups that are mobilized around different causes, which can be recruited into the SDG advocacy initiative. Youth can be trained to become change agents in as far as achievement of SDGs is concerned. Still, this works best if one goal (or a two) is identified and consistent advocacy efforts are channeled to its achievement. SDGs is concerned. Still, this works best if one goal (or a two) is identified and consistent advocacy efforts are channeled to its achievement.

## Findings on Youth Survey on Political and Governance Issues

The survey sought to establish the state of youth engagement in political and governance issues within their counties, the existing challenges, platforms, and opportunities for strengthening their voice and impact.

The findings are varied, including the following;

- 76% of the respondents indicated that there are no safe and institutionalized spaces in their counties
- Where the safe spaces are in existence, their effectiveness is average.
- A large percentage of the respondents believe that it is the primary role of the county government to create the safe and institutionalized spaces.
- There is a high rate of youth involved in monitoring youth-related issues both at the national and county/local levels.
- There are mixed findings on the level of awareness amongst the youth on various civic issues like gender inclusiveness, rule of law and democracy.

## Findings on Youth Survey on Digital Activism

The survey sought to establish a number of outcomes related to digital advocacy by youth who engage in governance issues within their counties.

- There is high engagement by the youth with county officials via digital platforms
- Mostly, it is both individual youth and youth groups (formations) which usually initiate the engagements
- Engagements by county officials are not always inclusive – they do not take into account the diversities amongst the youth demography. Also, engagements are dominated by elite youth in different counties.
- Youth have received trainings in different areas by different organizations which are helping them to engage in online advocacy.
- The counties that have community-centered accountability mechanisms are established by community leaders.
- The CIDPs have elements of the SDGs since the development plans are drawn from the Vision 2030 which seeks to also contribute to the achievement of the SDGs (successor of MDGs).
- In digital engagements, the most preferred platform is Twitter (54.2%) as the first choice followed by Facebooks (59.5%) as the second choice and WhatsApp (58.7%) as the third choice.
- A majority of 53% of the youth indicated that when they raised questions/queries with county officials, they did not get responses.
- Online campaigns are also seen as largely successful by the youth, although they still require trainings in agenda setting, online etiquette, content creation and digital analytics.

A gender and social inclusion overview shows that youth who are female are lagging behind in almost all the metrics where this analysis was applied i.e., level of participation in advocacy initiatives, level of engagement with county authorities, level of participation in community centered accountability mechanisms, those with

trainings in advocacy amongst other areas.

## Recommendations (Consolidated)

- Support counties to conduct dissemination and validation workshops that unpack the CIDP's and view them through a youth lens. This is a strategic opportunity to shape the focus and priority of individual counties, in the next five years, in terms of the kinds of programmes that are prioritized, and received funding, from the target counties. Coincidentally, all the target counties are at the stage of finalizing the zero drafts of their CIDPs, ahead of the validation phase.
- Repurpose trainings for Village/Ward/Sub-County Administrators since all counties use these officials as the mobilization agents for all their public participation forums.
- The youth groups are remobilized, trained and supported to be adequately functional before incorporation into the project activities.
- There is need to conduct a fresh mapping of well-structured youth groups to ensure that the project is well implemented and the participation of these youth groups remains tenable.
- The county leaderships should be supported to establish Technical Working Groups that bring together different youth actors within their specific counties, as a common platform of peer engagement and also coordination by the county authorities in charge of youth affairs.
- Customization of the project roll-out according to the unique requests of each of the six counties
- Adjust the indicators in line with the recommendations in the specific section
- Develop an end-to-end Monitoring and Evaluation Framework for the project, which contains all the critical elements of a standard framework. The current set up where only a logical framework exists is not sufficient.
- Establishment of functioning monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, to aid in tracking how counties are performing on youth issues. Currently, there are M&E Departments and personnel that are charged with tracking of performance of all departments. Besides, they are not well resourced both in financial and technical capacities to do this, how much less keeping tabs on youth specific elements amongst all the different interventions by the county?
- Development of social media strategy and training personnel to effectively implement the strategy for effective engagement with the youth.
- Development of public participation frameworks to enable counties to have a frame of reference in the way they engage the youth.
- Development of youth policies to define pathways through which the counties can sustainably implement specific youth-related programmes.
- Institution of community-centered accountability mechanisms, through trainings, to achieve citizen-driven complaints reporting and community score cards.
- Ensure that a midterm evaluation is conducted by the end of the second year, to measure progress,



rethink implementation approaches, and repurpose and refocus how the project moves successfully to the end of the cycle. Ordinarily, short-run projects (< one year) can make do with only baseline and end-term evaluations.

- By and large, as a best practice in the evaluation community, retain the baseline tools and modify them appropriately for the midterm and end-term evaluations. One key modification will be to integrate the OECD-DAC Criteria into the tools as required, to cover assessment of the project's Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact, and Sustainability.
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Evaluation Criteria <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm> (accessed 17th January, 2023)



# SECTION ONE – INTRODUCTION

This section presents information on the background of the Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices Project, and an overview of the baseline survey consultancy.

## 1.1 Background Information on the Project

The Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices (SPYV) project is a 4-year initiative targeting adolescents, young women and young men between 15 and 35 years old, through existing organized community-based groups. The project intends to work with County authorities (both the Executive and Assembly wings), especially the relevant departments responsible for public participation.

The project seeks to respond to some of the challenges identified empirically through analysis of data from various secondary sources addressing different challenges faced by the youth in the governance sector in Kenya. Three key issues that stood out from this are;

- Lack of knowledge and limited information, ignorance or non-compliance to the frameworks for youth inclusion by state and non-state actors
- Lack of robust frameworks of engagement, within counties, through which youth can articulate their grievances
- Marginalization and stereotyping of youth by those in authority

This project is being implemented by Siasa Place and Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD-Kenya), with funding from the Embassy of Netherlands, in Kenya.

Siasa Place is a youth NGO established in 2015, that aims to create an enabling environment for youth mainstreaming into our body politic. SP has remained focused and guided by its three pillars; people, policy formulation and public participation. The strategic plan of the organization is focused on meaningful youth engagement and involvement in civic processes, additionally utilizing digital platforms to share information through unconventional methods that target the majority populace.

The Centre for Multiparty Democracy, CMD-Kenya is a political parties-based membership organization established in 2004. The mandate is to enhance multiparty democracy and strengthen the institutional capacity of political parties in Kenya through policy influence and capacity building. CMD-Kenya's current strategic areas include support in enabling political governance and democracy driven policy

environment and cooperation among key political and civic actors, which is critical in expanding civic and democratic space, achieving social justice, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The project shall be implemented in six counties. The broad selection criteria of the counties is those with a trend of high/low resource allocations from the National Treasury, high youth population but low youth public participation and are urban/rural with diverse economic opportunities available. These counties are Busia, Homabay, Lamu, Kericho, Kitui, and Nairobi.

The six counties have been chosen on the basis of the criteria outlined in the table below, drawn from proposal.

**Table 1: Project Counties and Rationale for Inclusion**

County	Rationale for Inclusion
Nairobi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Highest revenue allocation</li><li>• High budget.</li><li>• Large youthful population</li><li>• Both Siasa Place and CMD-Kenya have existing structures in the county</li><li>• Has a County Youth Policy which is yet to be adopted by the County Assembly</li></ul>
Kericho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Siasa Place has existing structures in the County.</li><li>• Relatively high youth population</li></ul>
Homa Bay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High Rural Population</li><li>• Relatively high Revenue Allocation</li><li>• Has passed public participation laws</li></ul>
Busia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Siasa Place has existing structures in the county</li><li>• Has a very high poverty rate of 69.3%</li><li>• Has a draft public participation bill but has not yet been passed into law</li></ul>
Kitui	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• High Poverty rate</li><li>• High Rural Population</li><li>• High Revenue Allocation</li><li>• Only allocated 2.5% of its budget towards youth in 19/20 financial year</li></ul>

Source: Project Proposal to the Embassy of Netherlands, Page 11

# SECTION ONE – INTRODUCTION

This section presents information on the background of the Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices Project, and an overview of the baseline survey consultancy.

The project has four outcomes, as outlined below;

**OUTCOME 1:** Safe and institutionalized spaces for dialogue between youth and with all relevant governance institutions and political actors

**OUTCOME 2:** Youth are more aware of and have internalized democratic values, rule of law, gender sensitive & inclusive politics

**OUTCOME 3:** Youth civic actors that voice and monitor youth's interests at national and county levels

**OUTCOME 4:** Formal and informal youth groups/organizations have the capacity and legitimacy to influence government, business and societal actors in various areas of social and economic development

## 1.2 Overview of the Baseline Consultancy

Siasa Place commissioned a call for a consultant to conduct the baseline survey, towards understanding the current prevailing situation in those counties, giving insights in how best to (re)design the intended interventions, and strengthening the project's results framework. The purpose of the consultancy was to establish comprehensive baseline information on the state of youth voices and the levels of youth engagement in governance issues in the six target counties. The generated information will be critical in keeping track of the progress made during the life of the project in the next 4 years. Additionally, this consultancy will provide an insight into the existing capacity gaps amongst the youth and the county systems they operate in, therefore guide the project team in tailor-making interventions for each county.

The overall objective of the consultancy was to establish baseline data, guided by the indicators in the log-frame, as the basis for designing interventions and evaluating the outcomes amongst the target institutions and individuals.

The specific objectives of the consultancy were to:

- Generate baseline data that will identify and set benchmarks against which progress will be measured during both the mid-term and end-term evaluations. The data should cover the four Key

Outcome Areas, and the specific activities under each of them as outlined in the proposal and log-frame.

- Conduct an assessment of the current state of frameworks in place by counties that facilitate or constrain inclusive and meaningful youth engagement in governance processes.
- Evaluate the draft Logical Framework and make a commentary on the appropriateness of the listed indicators. This will guide the implementing organizations in development of the monitoring and evaluation framework/plan for the project.

The Scope of Work under this consultancy included the following;

- Review the SPYV – Project proposal and log-frame, to deepen understanding of the intended interventions and suggest possible adjustments, if at all.
- Conduct an extensive review of all relevant literature (secondary data) related to youth and governance in the six target counties specifically, and Kenya generally.
- Develop an Inception Report with a clear methodology and data collection tools.
- Proceed to the field (in the six counties) to collect the required primary data through interviews and consultations with all the sampled stakeholders in the youth governance space.
- Analyze the data, develop the baseline survey report addressing all the key data points and a commentary on the appropriateness (measurability) of the indicators in the logical framework (log frame), and submit the draft to Siasa Place and CMD-Kenya for review.

There were four deliverables under this consultancy, namely;

- An Inception Report, outlining the consultant's methodological approach to this assignment, and a proposed work-plan.
- A set of comprehensive data collection tools that will be used to generate the baseline data. These tools ought to capture both qualitative and quantitative data, as per the indicators in the log-frame.
- Final baseline survey report, which shall follow a draft submitted for approval to the project team.
- A commentary on the log-frame on the appropriateness of the indicators, with suggestions on adjustments on some indicators, if at all.

# SECTION TWO – RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This section discusses the research approach, key research questions, sampling methodology, target respondents, data collection tools, data analysis procedure, data presentation, and other ethical issues related to the baseline survey.

## 2.0 APPROACH

Broadly, the evaluation employed a Mixed Methods Approach (MMA) that is also complexity-aware and inclusive. The reason for this is because of the multi-layered nature of the project, the target beneficiaries and the profile of the data that was required to meet the minimum demands of quality.

Both qualitative and quantitative data was collected using both primary and secondary approaches that were participatory.

## 2.1 Research Questions

The baseline survey was guided by the following broad research questions, aligned to the key indicators in the logframe;

**Table 2: Guiding Research Questions for the Baseline Evaluation**

Indicator Level	Indicators	Guide Questions
<b>Impact/Goal</b>	Youth have equal access to civic and political rights, service and opportunities for sustainable development	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To what extent do the youth in the six target counties get equal access to civic and political rights, service, and opportunities for sustainable development?</li> <li>2. What evidence already exists and how can this be synthesized to enrich the understanding of the strategies, gaps, innovations and lessons in equal access for the youth to civic and political rights, service and opportunities for sustainable development?</li> </ol>
<b>Outcome</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Safe and institutionalized spaces for dialogue between youth and all relevant governance institutions and political actors</li> <li>2. Youth are more aware of internalized democratic values, rule of law, gender sensitive and inclusive politics</li> <li>3. Youth civic actors that voice and monitor youth interests at the national and county levels</li> <li>4. Formal and informal youth groups/organizations have capacity and legitimacy to influence government, business and societal actors in various areas including social and economic development</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are there safe and institutionalized spaces for dialogue between youth and all political actors in the six target counties?</li> <li>2. What are the levels of awareness amongst youth in the six target counties of democratic values, rule of law, gender parity and inclusiveness in politics?</li> <li>3. How well are the youth in the six target counties empowered to advocate for their interests at both national and county government levels?</li> <li>4. What are the capacity levels of youth groups (formal and informal) regarding influencing other actors for their economic and political development? What gaps exist and how can they be plugged?</li> </ol>
<b>Output</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Spaces for young people engagement with decision makers expanded</li> <li>2. Support to youth-led engagements in inclusive political and democratic processes</li> <li>3. Young men and women are sensitized to become effective civic actors</li> <li>4. Community centered accountability mechanisms established</li> <li>5. Youth voices harnessed and consolidated in the implementation of the SDGs</li> <li>6. Capacity development offered to formal and informal youth groups</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Are there designated spaces for youth engagement with decision makers in the six target counties?</li> <li>2. What types of support do youth require to effectively engage in inclusive political and democratic processes in their counties?</li> <li>3. What types of sensitization programmes can be implemented to enable youth become effective civic actors in their counties?</li> <li>4. What community centered accountability mechanisms can be established and what ways can this be done?</li> <li>5. How can youth voices in the six counties be harnessed to aid the implementation of the SDGs?</li> <li>6. What capacity development initiatives can be provided to both formal and informal youth groups in the six target counties?</li> </ol>



This section discusses the research approach, key research questions, sampling methodology, target respondents, data collection tools, data analysis procedure, data presentation, and other ethical issues related to the baseline survey.

## 2.2 Sampling Approach

Both probability and non-probability sampling approaches were used.

Under probability sampling, we started off with Multi-Stage Sampling which shall combine both Stratified Random Sampling and Simple Random Sampling. The six counties were treated as the stratas. Further, in each of the counties, we selected the sub-counties to target so as to ensure we do not concentrate on only one sub-county. Below is a summary of the sub-counties in each of the counties.

**Table 3: Sub Counties in each of the Target Counties**

County	Sub-counties
Lamu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lamu East</li> <li>2. Lamu West</li> </ol>
Homabay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homabay Town</li> <li>2. Kabondo-Kasipul</li> <li>3. Karachuonyo</li> <li>4. Kasipul</li> <li>5. Ndhiwa</li> <li>6. Rangwe</li> <li>7. Suba-North</li> <li>8. Suba-South</li> </ol>
Busia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teso North</li> <li>2. Teso South</li> <li>3. Nambale</li> <li>4. Matayos</li> <li>5. Butula</li> <li>6. Funyula</li> </ol>
Kericho	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ainamoi</li> <li>2. Belgut</li> <li>3. Bureti</li> <li>4. Kipkelion East Kipkelion West</li> <li>5. Sigowet-Soin</li> </ol>

The recommendation was to select a minimum of 20% of sub-counties in each of the counties. However, all the two sub-counties in Lamu were to be included.

Noteworthy, the specific SUB-COUNTIES that we intended to work in, were to be selected purposively, depending on many factors to be considered including accessibility, presence of Siasa Place/CMD-Kenya structures/youth groups etc.

The table below shows the number of sub-counties within which data was to be collected.

County	Sub-counties
Lamu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lamu East</li> <li>2. Lamu West</li> </ol>
Homabay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Homabay Town</li> <li>2. Kabondo-Kasipul</li> <li>3. Karachuonyo</li> <li>4. Kasipul</li> <li>5. Ndhiwa</li> <li>6. Rangwe</li> <li>7. Suba-North</li> <li>8. Suba-South</li> </ol>
Busia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Teso North</li> <li>2. Teso South</li> <li>3. Nambale</li> <li>4. Matayos</li> <li>5. Butula</li> <li>6. Funyula</li> </ol>
Kericho	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Ainamoi</li> <li>2. Belgut</li> <li>3. Bureti</li> <li>4. Kipkelion East Kipkelion West</li> <li>5. Sigowet-Soin</li> </ol>
Nairobi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Westlands</li> <li>2. Dagoretti North</li> <li>3. Dagoretti South</li> <li>4. Langata</li> <li>5. Kibra</li> <li>6. Roysambu</li> <li>7. Kasarani</li> <li>8. Ruaraka</li> <li>9. Embakasi South</li> <li>10. Embakasi North</li> <li>11. Embakasi Central</li> <li>12. Embakasi East</li> <li>13. Embakasi West</li> <li>14. Makadara</li> <li>15. Kamukunji</li> <li>16. Starehe</li> <li>17. Mathare</li> </ol>
Kitui	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Kitui Central</li> <li>2. Kitui East</li> <li>3. Kitui Rural</li> <li>4. Kitui South</li> <li>5. Kitui West</li> <li>6. Mwingi Central</li> <li>7. Mwingi North</li> <li>8. Mwingi West</li> </ol>

This section discusses the research approach, key research questions, sampling methodology, target respondents, data collection tools, data analysis procedure, data presentation, and other ethical issues related to the baseline survey.

The recommendation was to select a minimum of 20% of sub-counties in each of the counties. However, all the two sub-counties in Lamu were to be included.

Noteworthy, the specific SUB-COUNTIES that we intended to work in, were to be selected purposively, depending on many factors to be considered including accessibility, presence of Siasa Place/CMD-Kenya structures/youth groups etc.

The table below shows the number of sub-counties within which data was to be collected.

**Table 4: Sampled Number of Sub Counties for inclusion in the survey**

County	Total # of Sub-Counties	+20% of Sub-counties
Lamu	2	2
Homabay	8	2
Busia	6	1
Kericho	5	1
Nairobi	17	3
Kitui	8	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>46</b>	<b>11 (24%)</b>

Ultimately, the survey used randomization to pick the youth groups to participate in the survey. This is because of disjointed nature of the groups that had been initially targeted and identified.

In addition to this, we also employed Purposive Sampling under Non-Probability Sampling to identify and select some respondents whose information was pivotal to the objectives of this survey. These respondents formed the Key Informant category.

There were two broad categories of respondents;

1. Leaders of all the youth groups in the identified sub-counties
2. Officials of the six county governments who head departments in charge of youth affairs and public participation.

## 2.3 Data Collection Methods

Our approach in data collection was both primary and secondary.

The primary data collection will utilize Key Informant Interviews (KIIs) for county officials, and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) for the youth groups. Secondary data collection utilized desk review of critical project documents and other policy/government and sectoral documents. Information from the qualitative data essentially helped to illuminate, triangulate and add value to the findings emanating from the quantitative data.

Additional information of the key data collection methods is elucidated below.

### 2.3.1 Desk Review

1. Desk reviews included the following documents;
2. Project proposal, Logical Framework, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan
3. Reports by other organizations that have conducted youth related research
4. CIDPs of the six counties
5. Government policy documents on the youth sector
6. Other policy, legal, regulatory documents from relevant government agencies and non-state actors in the youth sector.

### 2.3.2 Key Informant Interviews

Key Informant interviews (KIs) were conducted with persons considered strategic in provision of information relevant to the survey's objectives.

The KIs enriched the data collected in this survey since it featured actors who lend a direct influence in formulation of relevant policy and legislative frameworks locally and those who implement the same. The underlying idea in having such a mix of stakeholders was to afford the baseline survey a clear perspective of the linkages between the present situation regarding the state of governance in how it impacts the youth, and the project interventions expected to be undertaken as part of the measures to ameliorate any limitations to civic participation, inequality and social exclusion. Based on the foregoing, the following KIs were interviewed.

1. County Executive Committee Members (CECM) and Chief Officers (COs) in charge of youth docket
2. Leaders of youth groups
3. Influential voices amongst youth in different counties

### 2.3.3 Survey Questionnaires

Two survey questionnaires were coded on KOBO Collect and circulated amongst youth groups for filling via their mobile devices or computers. These tools focussed on the general state of governance in their counties and digital activism.

Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) were conducted to facilitate in-depth discussions on particular topical issues related to the survey objectives. These were done for a number of youth groups, as part of the effort to gain further information, besides the questionnaires that they were filling.

This section discusses the research approach, key research questions, sampling methodology, target respondents, data collection tools, data analysis procedure, data presentation, and other ethical issues related to the baseline survey.

The recommendation was to select a minimum of 20% of sub-counties in each of the counties. However, all the two sub-counties in Lamu were to be included.

Noteworthy, the specific SUB-COUNTIES that we intended to work in, were to be selected purposively, depending on many factors to be considered including accessibility, presence of Siasa Place/CMD-Kenya structures/youth groups etc.

The table below shows the number of sub-counties within which data was to be collected.

## 2.4 Extent of Data Collection

Significant progress was made on both the interviews with KIs and the filling of online questionnaires by the youth. The table below gives a summary of the KI interviewees in each county.

**Table 5: Summary Information of Key Respondents**

County	Name and Position of Respondent(s)
Busia	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Charles Juma – Director, Youth Affairs</li> <li>2. Sammy Barasa – Youth Officer</li> <li>3. Lawrence</li> </ol>
Homabay	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sarah Malit – CECM, Education, Sports, Youth and Social Services</li> </ol>
Kericho	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Geoffrey Korir – Sports, ICT, Gender and Youth docket.</li> <li>2. Betsy Chebet – Public Service Management (handles public participation)</li> <li>3. Hon. Matthew Kipkurui (Member County Assembly, Chaik Ward)</li> </ol>
Kitui	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hellena Ken – CECM, Education, Youth and Sports</li> <li>2. Gillian Jane – Director, Youth Affairs</li> <li>3. Sammy Mbuvi – Youth Affairs Officer</li> </ol>
Lamu	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Sebastian Owanga – CECM, Education, ICT, Gender, Youth Affairs, Sports, Community Development and Social Services</li> <li>2. Peter Ndichu – Director, Youth Affairs</li> </ol>
Nairobi	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joyce Somoni – Public Participation and Civic Engagement Officer</li> </ol>

Information on the number of youth who participated in filling the survey questionnaires is outlined in the next chapter on findings.

## 2.5 Data Quality Assurance Plan

This encompasses everything that was done to ensure that the final output is of the highest quality possible, adhering to all the internationally accepted best practices in the conduct of such reviews. The following are some key aspects;

- Logistical and management planning – A clear plan of action was developed prior to the fieldwork. It entailed a mobilization plan for the respondents and movement plan from one county to the other. Additionally, a strategy on distribution of the survey questionnaires formed part of the overall logistical and management planning.
- Field work protocols and data verification including back-checking and quality control for purposes of high data integrity.
- Data cleaning and entry before any analysis

## 2.6 Data Analysis Plan

Data obtained from the above process will be both qualitative and quantitative.

### 2.6.1 Qualitative Data

Qualitative data was analysed using a thematic approach. In general, themes have been developed in accordance with the objectives of the survey, research questions and expected outcomes. Data has then been grouped according to these themes, as a first step for subsequent interpretations.

In the course of analysis, there is a clear highlight of the key emerging issues, trends and patterns. Overall, this information is important in triangulating the quantitative data collected elsewhere.

### 2.6.2 Quantitative Data

Quantitative data was analysed using MS Excel to generate the relevant descriptive statistics and outputs. Open ended questions were recorded and analysed using basic thematic sorting and frequencies. Presentation been done in the form of charts and tables.

## 2.7 Data Presentation and Reporting

Presentation and discussion of the findings in Chapter 3 was guided by the objectives of the baseline survey and the outputs as outlined in the TOR. As such qualitative and quantitative data was integrated. The findings of the baseline survey and the feedback on the log frame have also been amalgamated.

## 2.8 Ethical Considerations

A research license was obtained from the National Council of Science, Technology and Innovation (NACOSTI), prior to engagement in the survey. This is in line with the government's requirement on collection of information from both public and private entities.

Informed consent was obtained from all the respondents, irrespective of whether they were part of the KII or the survey questionnaires. The consent was presented to the respondents in a language that they understood, prior to their participation in the survey. The informed consent highlighted the purpose of the baseline evaluation, the ultimate use of the data being collected and commitment to observance of confidentiality of data collected.

There was also adherence to the policies of Siasa Place and CMD – Kenya, during the entire process of the survey.

# SECTION THREE – FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

## 3.0 SURVEY FINDINGS

### 3.1 Findings on Goal/Impact Level Indicator

Based on this high-level indicator, the survey explored context within which youth access their political and civic rights, a cursory mapping of the youth service organizations in the country and their contribution to deepening youth engagement, factors that enable and/or constrain youth participation in political processes, and drivers that will shape youth engagement, going forward.

#### Overview

Kenya has a long and enduring history of centralized approach to governance, with a strong Hobbesian state. Since the pre-colonial times, the state was used as an agent to promote the interests of the small political and business elite, with an intentional exclusion criterion that affected many Kenyans who were disenfranchised along ethnic, age, sex and regional lines. The 2010 Constitution upended the monopolistic practices of the state, which tended to push non-elite actors, like the youth, to the periphery. Presently, there are clear constitutional safeguards on the youth question, with Articles 10, 27, 55 and 174, providing the pivot.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the socioeconomic and political context in which work on youth engagement in governance issues is taking place in Kenya is complex and multifaceted. Socio-economically, Kenya is a lower-middle-income country with a population of approximately 50 million people. Although the country has experienced consistent economic growth over the last decade, poverty and inequality remain major challenges. Youth unemployment is also a significant issue, with an estimated 40% of young people out of work. Politically, Kenya has a multi-party system and holds elections on a regular basis; however, the country has a history of political violence, particularly during election season. Corruption is still a major issue, and there are concerns about the independence of the judiciary and the rule of law.

When it comes to governance, Kenya has a decentralized system of governance, with 47 counties and a devolved system of government. However, there have been concerns about county governments' ability to govern effectively and deliver shared prosperity, as well as issues with corruption and mismanagement.

In terms of youth engagement in governance issues, efforts have been made to increase youth participation in politics and civic education; however, youth representation in parliament remains low. Concerns have also been raised about the lack of meaningful youth involvement in decision-making processes.

In addition, the socioeconomic and political environment in Kenya have been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. The economy has been severely disrupted, which has increased unemployment and poverty. Inequalities and disparities have also been brought to light by the pandemic, particularly in terms of access to healthcare and other services. The government's reaction to the pandemic has additionally come under fire for being ineffective and delayed.

It's also important to note that Kenya has a thriving civil society, with many NGOs and community-based groups working on a variety of issues. These organizations are actively trying to promote human rights, sustainable development, and good governance, but they encounter obstacles like a lack of funding, capacity constraints, and difficulties carrying out their missions in an environment that is becoming increasingly restrictive for civil society organizations.

In general, significant challenges, such as poverty, inequality, youth unemployment, political violence, corruption, and poor governance, characterize the socioeconomic and political environment in which work

on youth engagement in governance issues is taking place in Kenya . Despite these obstacles, there are initiatives underway to encourage youth involvement in politics and civic education as well as to give young people the tools they need to become engaged members of society and community leaders.

#### Cursory Mapping of Youth Serving Organizations at the National Level

Youth involvement in governance issues is a focus of numerous organizations in Kenya. Here are a few examples:

- i. The National Youth Council (NYC) - This is a government-funded organization that aims to empower and engage young people in the development process of the country. They are concerned with issues such as youth political participation, economic empowerment, and social inclusion.
- ii. The International Republican Institute (IRI) – This is an NGO that promotes democratic governance and political participation in Kenya and other countries around the world. They have a specific program focused on youth political participation and civic education.
- iii. The African Youth Network for Sustainable Development (AYNSD) - This organization promotes youth empowerment and sustainable development in Kenya and other African countries.
- iv. Kenya National Youth Council (KNYC): This is a government-funded organization that seeks to empower and engage young people in the country's development. They are concerned with issues such as youth political participation, economic empowerment, and social inclusion.
- v. Youth Serving Organizations (YSO) Consortium: This is a network that brings together nearly 50 organizations drawn from across the country, whose thematic focus is youth related matters. The spectrum of their programmes is wide, ranging from climate change, political inclusion, art and talent for advocacy, and women empowerment amongst others. The members include PAWA254, Youth! Alive Kenya, Emerging Leaders Foundation and Tribeless Youth amongst others.
- vi. Siasa Place: Siasa Place is a Kenyan-based non-profit organization that aims to promote democracy, human rights, and good governance through innovative and inclusive approaches. It works towards fostering a more inclusive, accountable and participatory political system that caters to the needs of all citizens. The organization conducts various programs and initiatives that raise awareness on key political and governance issues, engage citizens in meaningful political discourse, and support the development of responsible and responsive leaders. Siasa Place is committed to creating a vibrant democracy and building a better future for Kenya.
- vii. Centre for Multiparty Democracy – Kenya: The Centre for Multiparty Democracy, CMD-Kenya, is a membership organization based on political parties that was founded in March 2004. Through policy influence and capacity building, the mandate is to strengthen multiparty democracy and the institutional capacity of Kenyan political parties. The organization provides a forum for political parties, political actors, and policymakers to interact and collaborate in order to strengthen multiparty democracy. CMD-Kenya collaborates with political parties, political actors, strategic partners, and key stakeholders to promote social justice, best practices in political governance, and respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.
- viii. Youth Agenda: The mission of this organization is to promote youth participation and representation in governance, particularly in decision-making processes. They are focused on issues such as youth representation in parliament, civic education, and youth-led development.



- ix. Sauti ya Wanawake (Voice of Women): This organization's purpose is to promote women's rights and gender equality in Kenya. They have programs that focus on youth participation in governance and civic education, with a particular emphasis on young women.
- x. The Youth Congress: The Youth Congress is a membership-based organization that promotes youth participation in governance and civic education. They are concerned with issues such as youth parliamentary representation, youth-led development, and civic education.
- xi. The Kenya National Youth Alliance aims to empower young people to participate in governance and civic education. They are concerned with issues like youth representation in parliament, youth-led development, and civic education.
- xii. The National Council of Churches of Kenya (NCCCK): The NCCCK promotes civic education, good governance, and democracy in Kenya. They have programs that focus on youth civic engagement and civic education.
- xiii. The National Youth Service (NYS) is a government-funded organization that works to empower young people by providing them with education and job opportunities. They are concerned with issues like youth employment, skill development, and civic education.
- xiv. Kenya Youth Empowerment and Employment Partnership (KYEPP) - This organization promotes youth employment and entrepreneurship in Kenya. They are concerned with issues such as youth-led development, skill development, and economic empowerment.
- xv. Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) - The KNCHR promotes human rights and good governance in Kenya. They have programs that focus on youth civic engagement and civic education.
- xvi. The National Council of NGOs (NCNGO) is a membership-based organization that represents non-governmental organizations (NGOs) in Kenya. They have programs that focus on youth civic engagement and civic education.
- xvii. The Youth Initiative for Advocacy, Growth, and Advancement (YIAGA) - This organization promotes youth involvement in governance and civic education. They are concerned with issues such as youth representation in parliament, civic education, and youth-led development.
- xviii. The Kenya Alliance of Resident Associations (KARA) is an organization that represents Kenyan resident associations. They have programs that focus on youth civic engagement and civic education.
- xix. The Kenya Institute of Governance and Public Policy (KIGAM) - This organization focuses on governance and public policy research, training, and policy advice in Kenya. They have programs that concentrate on the engagement of young people in civic education and governance.
- xx. The Youth Senate: This organization seeks to strengthen democratic discourse and ensure youth involvement in local, national, and international affairs. Additionally, it seeks to mobilize the youth to become aware and involved in tax policy, budget allocation, and expenditure, and how all these prioritize youth agenda.

Based on this high-level indicator, the survey explored context within which youth access their political and civic rights, a cursory mapping of the youth service organizations in the country and their contribution to deepening youth engagement, factors that enable and/or constrain youth participation in political processes, and drivers that will shape youth engagement, going forward.

One notable finding is that many youth organizations are moving towards working in consortia so as to broaden their bargaining chip, attract bigger funding portfolio, and widen their impact (both thematic and geographic).

The degree to which youth-serving organizations' efforts have helped ensure that young people in Kenya have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development is a rather convoluted and multifaceted issue. While these organizations have certainly helped to raise awareness and advocate for youth rights and empowerment, the overall impact of their work is likely to be influenced by a variety of factors.

Some of the ways youth-serving organizations have helped to ensure youth access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities are as follows:

- i. Promoting youth participation in politics and civic education as well as advocating for laws and initiatives that support youth empowerment are all examples of advocacy for youth representation in politics and decision-making processes. This can assist in ensuring that youth have a voice in the political process and the opportunity to shape policies and programs that affect their lives.
- ii. Providing civic education and training: A lot of youth-serving organizations educate and train young people in civic matters, ensuring that they have the necessary knowledge and abilities to engage in politics and fight for their rights and interests.
- iii. Supporting youth-led development: A number of youth-serving organizations support youth-led development by giving young people access to funding, training, and other resources to enable them to design and carry out their own development projects.
- iv. Monitoring and reporting on violations of youth rights: Some youth-serving organizations monitor and report on violations of youth rights, which can help to raise awareness and draw attention to issues that need to be addressed.
- v. Providing litigation services to aid youth navigate the justice system, with all its vagaries.

#### Summary of Factors that Enable and/or Constrain Youth Engagement

A variety of factors, including each organization's unique focus and activities, the general socioeconomic and political environment in Kenya, and the degree of support and resources made available to these organizations, are likely to have an impact on the overall impact of the work that these organizations do.

It also is crucial to bear in mind that even if these organizations are striving to empower young people, there are still a lot of issues that young people in Kenya must contend with, including poverty, inequality, youth unemployment, political violence, corruption, and poor governance, all of which can limit the impact of their efforts.

In general, Kenyan youth lack equal access to civic and political rights, services, and chances for long-term development. The lack of knowledge and resources, prejudice, and underrepresentation in decision-making bodies are just a few of the obstacles that many young people in Kenya confront while trying to participate

in civic and political activities. Additionally, the nation's considerable problems with youth unemployment and poverty can restrict access to possibilities for sustainable development. Governmental and non-governmental groups, however, are also making an effort to address these issues, give young people the tools they need to participate in civic and political life, and give them access to chances for sustainable development.

The claim that youth in Kenya do not have equitable access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development is supported by a sizable body of evidence. Examples include the following:

In Kenya, over 60% of young people are unemployed or underemployed, and many struggle to access opportunities for education and training, according to a 2018 report by the United Nations Development Program. In addition, a 2016 study by the International Republican Institute discovered that young people in Kenya encounter major obstacles to engaging in civic and political processes, such as a lack of education, limited access to information, and a lack of employment prospects. Furthermore, over 60% of young people in Kenya live below the poverty level, according to a 2020 report by the Kenya National Bureau of Statistics.

Nevertheless, there are also initiatives and efforts being carried out by both governmental and non-governmental organizations to address these issues, empower young people to take part in political and civic life, and give them access to opportunities for sustainable development. The Kenyan government, for example, has implemented the National Youth Policy, which aims to empower young people to participate in civic and political processes and access opportunities for sustainable development. The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and other organizations are working to provide education and training opportunities for Kenyan youth to help them access better economic and social opportunities. The African Development Bank on the other hand is funding initiatives that support entrepreneurship and innovation while also working to provide jobs for young people in Kenya.

Overall, although youth in Kenya face considerable obstacles to accessing civic and political rights, services, and chances for sustainable development, there are also continuing attempts to eliminate these obstacles and provide young people the power to engage in civic and political processes and access those opportunities.

#### Approaches, Gaps, Innovations, and Lessons Learnt in Youth Engagement

A growing amount of information is available on the approaches, gaps, innovations, and lessons learned in ensuring that young people in Kenya have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development. This evidence can be combined to improve our comprehension of the difficulties and possibilities in this field. The following are a few techniques for synthesizing the available data:

- i. Examining current literature, A growing collection of literature, including research, reports, and assessments from organizations active in this field, is available on youth involvement in governance concerns in Kenya. In order to ensure that young people have equitable access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development, it is important to identify essential methods, gaps, innovations, and lessons from the literature.
- ii. Statistic and data analysis: Additionally, there is a variety of information and statistics on young involvement in governance issues in Kenya, including information on political engagement, civic education, and economic empowerment. To find trends and patterns in equitable access to civic and political rights,

services, and opportunities, this data can be studied.

iii. Conducting case studies: Case studies of particular youth-serving organizations or youth-led initiatives can offer in-depth insights into the strategies, gaps, innovations, and lessons in ensuring that all young people have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development.

iv. Interacting with key stakeholders: Inter acting with key stakeholders, such as young people, youth-serving organizations, government officials, and other relevant actors, can offer insightful information about the difficulties and opportunities in ensuring that all Kenyan youth have equal access to services, civic and political rights, and opportunities for sustainable development.

It is possible to gain a more thorough understanding of the approaches, gaps, innovations, and lessons in ensuring that all Kenyan youth have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development by synthesizing the existing evidence from these various sources. In order to have a solid grasp of the current situation, it would also be crucial to maintain track of recent developments and events.

In Kenya, youth involvement in governance issues is anticipated to change during the next ten years due to a number of important factors. A few of these are:

vii. Economic development and youth employment: As the economy expands, pressure to provide opportunities and work for young people is likely to grow. This could motivate initiatives to assist youth-led development and to encourage youth employment and entrepreneurship.

viii. Political stability and democracy: Political violence has a history in Kenya, especially during election seasons. There may be a better atmosphere for youth involvement in governance concerns if the nation continues to experience political stability and democratic advancement.

ix. Decentralization and devolution: With 47 counties and a devolved system of government, Kenya has a decentralized system of governance. Youth participation in local governance may increase if county governments continue to strengthen their capabilities and perform more efficiently.

x. Technology and social media: The next ten years are likely to see continued rapid advancements in technology and social media, which might have a big impact on how engaged young people are with political issues. Mobile and social media platforms can be effective instruments for youth participation, giving young people fresh opportunities to connect, band together, and fight for the things they care about.

xi. Inclusion and gender: young women and girls must have equal access to civic and political rights, services, and opportunities for sustainable development. Gender inequality is still a serious problem in Kenya. Closing the gender and inclusion gaps can lead to more successful and long-lasting development results for everybody.

xii. Climate change: Since Kenya is particularly susceptible to its effects, finding a solution in the upcoming ten years will be essential. Since young people are most impacted by this problem, they ought to be included in governance and decision-making about climate change.

These are just a few examples of the key driving forces that are likely to shape youth engagement in governance issues in Kenya in the next decade, however, it's worth noting that the situation is dynamic and the context is, to a good degree, fluid.

There were various issues surveyed under this including existence of safe and institutionalized spaces for youth to engage with their leaders, existence of public participation frameworks, monitoring and evaluation frameworks for tracking performance of counties' engagement with the youth, level of awareness amongst the youth on governance matters, and presence of capacity building programmes for the youth. The findings

### 3.2.1 Safe and Institutionalized Spaces

Our findings show that there exist safe spaces, to the extent that there are no immediate and manifest dangers to the youth who engage with political actors in the county. However, these spaces are not institutionalized. There is no clear framework that defines these spaces in a way that makes them known and usable by the youth. Where they exist, they are ad hoc in nature. One main driver of this is lack of policy and institutional frameworks to underpin the safety and institutionalization of these spaces. The table below gives a summary of the state of play regarding public participation and youth related policies in the target counties.

**Table 6: State of Youth-related Policies and Public Participation Guidelines**

County	Public Participation Act/Policy/Guidelines	Youth related Policy(ies)
Busia	Non-existent – A draft was developed but it did not pass through the 2 <sup>nd</sup> County Assembly.	There is a Busia County Apprenticeship Policy and Busia Youth and Training Policy which are in draft form. Support is needed to finalize them.
Homabay	A draft was developed but shelved. The county is open to being supported to institute and implement one	Non-existent but open to being supported to institute one
Kericho	A bill was developed but did not get passed by the County Assembly	In 2019, the Youth Development Bill failed to go through the County Assembly.  Kericho County Enterprise Fund Act (2014) ran into headwinds because of the affirmative action groups like PWDs and women came up to protest. It had a youth component but was removed so that it benefits everyone. Initially, it received KSH 100M as seed capital, loans were disbursed but recovery was problematic. Going forward, there is need for a framework that focusses exclusively on youth – Youth Empowerment and Development Bill?
Kitui	There is an Act but it requires revisions	There is a policy but it has not been assented to by the cabinet. The development was supported by the National Youth Council (NYC). However, it has gaps and needs revision.
Lamu	An Act exists but needs support to be operationalized	Non-existent but county is open to being assisted to develop one
Nairobi	Non-existent but the County has a fully-fledged office that deals with Public Participation and Civic Engagement, a first amongst counties.	The Youth Policy was launched in February 2022, but its implementation was encumbered by the ensuing General Elections.

<sup>8</sup> Kenya Law Reform <https://www.google.com/search?client=safari&rls=en&q=KENYA+LAW+REFORM&ie=UTF-8&oe=UTF-8> (accessed 17th January, 2023)

<sup>9</sup> The Institute for Social Accountability <https://tisa.co.ke> (accessed 17th January, 2023)

## Gender and Social Inclusion Review

In counties where there was a form of legislation on public participation, there was a provision requiring that participation takes into account inclusion of both men and women, and people from minority groups like those living with disabilities, and the youth amongst others.

Both the Kenya Law Reform and The Institute for Social Accountability (TISA) developed public participation model bills, which could easily be adopted and customized by different counties. In spite of this effort, many counties, including those selected as beneficiaries of this project, are struggling to institute a robust public participation framework.

The survey also assessed the issue of social media as a virtual space, and how the counties engage with the youth through the various available platforms. The interviews led to the following conclusions;

- The counties do not have a clear social media policy, much less how this should be used to engage the youth.
- Interactions on social media are disjointed and fragmented, thereby lacking a consistent model of engagement.
- There are many WhatsApp groups either formed by county officials or the residents, who will most likely be the youth. Notwithstanding, narratives and discussions are random, and agenda setting is driven by parochial interests.
- On the sunny side, all the county officials were open to being supported to set up an erudite social media strategy, train their staff members and support the implementation of the strategy.

### 3.2.2 Monitoring of Counties' Engagement with the Youth

All the target counties have, in some shape or form, a Monitoring and Evaluation unit/department. However, there are capacity gaps in how these departments/units are run. Although subsequent CIDPs usually contain a monitoring and evaluation framework, implementation do not match the grand plans articulated therein.

Overall, this affects the measurement and reporting of results across the county functions. Certainly, this trickles down to how counties are tracking the work they are doing for/with the youth under their ambit. As a consequence, there is no documentation, for instance, of how many youth attended and made contributions in public participation forums across a given year.

There were various issues surveyed under this indicator including the types of support required by youth to effectively engage in inclusive political and democratic processes in their counties, presence of community-centered accountability mechanisms and integration of SDGs in the CIDPs.

There is opportunity for the project to support establishment of functioning monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, to aid in tracking how counties are performing on the youth agenda.

### **3.2.3 Levels of Awareness amongst the Youth on Governance Issues**

The survey sought a qualitative view from the county officials, on the level of awareness of the youth, on the following issues; democratic values, rule of law, gender parity and inclusiveness in politics. The following are key highlights;

The youth have a higher consciousness on the need for economic empowerment compared to political participation. To many, there is a disconnect in how these two are related. There is a discrepancy in how they attend public participation forums since many usually are either mobilized by specific politicians to push predetermined agenda, or are motivated by the financial reward that they will get. There is still work that needs to be done to conscientize the youth on the need to willfully and intentionally participate in the public forums for their own greater good.

According to the interviewed officials, football remains popular and has been successfully used to mobilize youth around specific causes in Lamu County. This could be a good entry point for the project, owing to the widespread popularity of the sport amongst the youth.

In Homabay, the high numbers of teenage pregnancy and obsession of many youth with bodaboda business accounts for the low levels of public participation amongst the youth cohort. As such, interventions to enhance political and civic engagement will have to wrestle with how to deal with these equally pressing problems.

Overall, the tension between youth having a higher sense of understanding of their rights as compared to their responsibilities was a cross cutting theme in all the counties, and is worth reflecting on as the project gets into implementation phase.

From a gender perspective, there was no evidence of disparities between men and women, when it comes to awareness amongst youth on governance issues.

The capacity building programmes targeting the youth are built around skills enhancement, the arts, sports, ICT, and vocational education. Currently, all the six counties are at the finalization and validation stages in the development of their CIDPs, which contain detailed information on the capacity building programmes.

Noteworthy, programmes centered on building the capacity of the youth on political advocacy are generally non-existent. One can easily see the conflicted state of affairs here – training the youth to become more active in political and civic engagement is a twin-edged sword for county authorities.



## 3.3 Findings on Output Level Indicators

There were various issues surveyed under this indicator including the types of support required by youth to effectively engage in inclusive political and democratic processes in their counties, presence of community-centered accountability mechanisms and integration of SDGs in the CIDPs.

### 3.3.1 Nature of Support to Enhance Youth Participation in Political Processes

The most popular recommendation lay in conducting continuous sensitization and training programmes, to enhance the youth's capacity to participate in political processes. There was consensus amongst officials in different counties that many youth are not well acquainted with the functions of county governments. There is conflation between the roles of the national government, and those of the devolved units.

Additionally, there is low literacy on the opportunities for public participation and their timings on the calendar of activities across the year. For instance, knowledge on the budget making cycle is low to none. This deprives many youth the chance to contribute to the development priorities of the county for the next financial year.

Although the previous CIDPs contained rosy plans on youth empowerment and inclusion in the political



processes of the county, all officials contended that lack of financial resources limited their capacity to execute the said plans.

Overall, participation of the youth is optimal during electioneering periods, where mobilization of the youth by different candidates hits a peak.

### 3.3.2 Community-centered Accountability Mechanisms

Information on existence of community centered accountability mechanisms is scanty. Notwithstanding, there is evidence of instances where communities mobilize themselves to demand for services in instances where the county or national government is lax. Isolated protests are reported where citizens picket, demanding for better roads, provision of security, and better returns on their agricultural goods, amongst other things.

The problem with this model is that it is fragmented and disjointed. It is also ad-hoc and kneejerk in nature, almost only acting on impulse when a certain threshold of pain is unbearable. Otherwise, in between two incidents, the citizens mostly endure bad governance without much pushback.

The import of this is that historically disadvantaged groups like women, youth and the disabled are left to fight for their rights, without clear structures that ensure a sustainable approach to holding to account the duty bearers.

Resolution of this therefore, requires systematic sensitization programmes targeting community members, empowering them to know how to set-up sustainable mechanisms for holding those who wield power, accountable. Trainings in areas like community-based complaints, reporting and accountability mechanisms would be a step in the right direction. This would yield community score cards/citizen report cards that provide feedback to leadership on their performance.

### 3.3.3 Integration of SDGs into the CIDPs

The wide-ranging nature of the SDGs , with 17 goals and 169 targets, means that in one shape or form, the CIDPs will have articulations of the aspirations in the SDGs. The table below illustrates a juxtaposition of the SDGs and the functions of county governments, as per the Fourth Schedule of the Constitution of Kenya

The table above shows the ways in which counties, by default, are contributing to the fulfilment of the SDGs. Yet, support ought to go to the devolved units to identify a specific SGD and focus on its full implementation. This will cushion them against spreading themselves too thinly, in view of the meagre resources.

The incoming CIDPs (2022 – 2027) for all the six counties contain varying proposals that will contribute to moving towards the SDGs targets. This is because the CIDPs are drawn from the Vision2030, whose goal is to also move Kenya towards the aspirations contained in the SDGs.

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<sup>17</sup> Goals <https://sdgs.un.org/goals> (accessed 18th January, 2023)

Functions and Powers of County Governments <https://www.klrc.go.ke/index.php/constitution-of-kenya/167-schedules-schedules/fourth-schedule-distribution-of-functions-between-national-and-the-county-governments/448-2-county-governments> (accessed 18th January, 2023)

**Table 7: Juxtaposition of SDGs and Constitutional Functions of County Governments in Kenya**

Sustainable Development Goals	Functions and Powers of County Governments in Kenya
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. End poverty in all its forms everywhere</li> <li>2. End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</li> <li>3. Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all age</li> <li>4. Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</li> <li>5. Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</li> <li>6. Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</li> <li>7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</li> <li>8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</li> <li>9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and</li> <li>10. Reduce inequality within and among countries</li> <li>11. Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable</li> <li>12. Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns</li> <li>13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts</li> <li>14. Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development</li> <li>15. Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss</li> <li>16. Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels</li> <li>17. Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agriculture</li> <li>2. County health services</li> <li>3. Control of air pollution, noise pollution, other public nuisances and outdoor advertising.</li> <li>4. Cultural activities, public entertainment and public amenities</li> <li>5. County transport</li> <li>6. Animal control and welfare,</li> <li>7. Trade development and regulation,</li> <li>8. County planning and development, including—</li> <li>9. Pre-primary education, village polytechnics, homecraft centres and childcare facilities.</li> <li>10. Implementation of specific national government policies on natural resources and environmental conservation</li> <li>11. County public works and services,</li> <li>12. Fire fighting services and disaster management.</li> <li>13. Control of drugs and pornography.</li> <li>14. Ensuring and coordinating the participation of communities and locations in governance at the local level and assisting communities and locations to develop the administrative capacity for the effective exercise of the functions and powers and participation in governance at the local level.</li> </ol>

### 3.3.4 Harnessing Youth Voices in SDGs Implementation

There are many youth groups that are mobilized around different causes, which can be recruited into the SDG advocacy initiative. Youth can be trained to become change agents in as far as achievement of SDGs is concerned. Still, this works best if one goal (or a two) is identified and consistent advocacy efforts are channeled to its achievement. To enhance buy-in, linkages can be created between the aims and goals of those groups, and county functions that tally with the identified SDG.

## 3.4 Findings on Youth Survey on Political and Governance Issues

The survey sought to establish the state of youth engagement in political and governance issues within their counties, the existing challenges, platforms, and opportunities for strengthening their voice and impact.

Below are the findings of the survey.

### 3.4.1 Demographic information

A total of 889 youths took part in the assessment. Out of this, 481 (54%) were male while 408 (46%) were female. The table below gives a summary of the details.

**Table 8: Sex of Respondents – Survey on Political and Governance Issues**

Sex	# of Respondents	%
Female	408	46%
Male	481	54%
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>

Since the STPYV project is being implemented in six counties, the respondents were asked to specify their counties of residence. The findings, as shown in the table below, indicate that a majority were from Kericho County (35%) and the least were from Lamu County (5%).

**Table 9: County of Residence by the Respondents**

County	# of Respondents	%
Busia	107	12
Homabay	204	23
Kericho	311	35
Kitui	62	7
Lamu	44	5
Nairobi	161	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>

An analysis of the age groups within which the respondents fall shows that a majority were in the 25 – 30 years category (45.1%) followed by those in the 18 – 24 years category (38.9%). The table below gives further details.

**Table 10: Analysis of Age Groups of Respondents**

Age Group	Sex	# of Respondents	%
18-24 years	Female	157	
	Male	189	
<b>Total</b>		<b>346</b>	<b>38.9%</b>
25-30 years	Female	182	
	Male	219	
<b>Total</b>		<b>401</b>	<b>45.1%</b>
31-35 years	Female	54	
	Male	88	
<b>Total</b>		<b>142</b>	<b>16%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>

The assessment sought to establish the highest level of education for the respondents. The findings, as presented in the table below, show that a majority of 382 (43%) have completed university.

**Table 11: Highest Level of Education for Respondents**

Highest Level of Education	# of Respondents	%
Completed College	338	38
Completed Secondary	169	19
Completed University	382	43
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>

The respondents were asked whether they are living with any disability. The responses show that up to 882 of the youth who participated in the survey (99.3%) were not living with any disability. Of those with a disability, five had physical impairment while two had visual impairment. The details are contained in the table below.

**Table 12: Status of Disability amongst respondents**

Do you have any disability?	# of Respondents	%
No	882	99.3
Yes	7	0.7
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>

The respondents were asked about which youth serving organization they were aligned with (or had worked with), since the basis for choosing the six counties was that the consortium members already had membership structures therein. The findings in the table below show that a majority (498; 56%) were not aligned to any of the two organizations while the least (9;1%) were aligned to both.

**Table 13: Organization Alignment**

Organization Alignment	# of Respondents	%
CMD - Kenya	142	16
Siasa Place	240	27
Both	9	1
None of the Above	498	56
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3.3.4 Harnessing Youth Voices in SDGs Implementation

The discrepancy in the finding above can be explained by the fact that since this was a randomized survey, there were youth who responded that do not work with the two consortium members, even though they reside in one of the six target counties.

Further, the survey sought to establish if the respondents were members of any group involved in advocating for the rights/interests of youth in their respective counties. A total of 560 youth (63%) answered in the affirmative while 329 youth (37%) indicated that they are not members of any group engaged in such a venture. Of those who confirmed membership of groups, they were asked if their groups were registered. A total of 526 youth (94%) indicated that their groups are registered while only 44 youth (6%) indicated that their groups are not registered. The figure below illustrates this.

### 3.4.2 Outcome Level Indicators

Various issues falling under the project's outcome level indicators were interrogated. These include safe and institutionalized spaces, youth engagement in advocacy, gender parity, effectiveness in advocacy, amongst others.

#### 3.4.2.1 Safe Spaces

The youth were asked about their definition of safe space. The responses focused on three characteristics; First, a place that is easily accessible by all. Second, a space that allows the youth to express themselves without fear. Third, a place where what you say cannot be used against you. The survey inquired whether there were safe and institutionalized spaces known to the youth, in the target counties. These safe spaces are meant to provide dialogue between the youth and all the political actors in the county. The findings show that only 24% of the respondents responded in the affirmative. Further, amongst those who confirmed existence of safe and institutionalized spaces, there was an inquiry on their effectiveness. On this, the analysis shows a majority of the respondents (65%) indicated that the spaces are not effective. The table below summarizes these findings.

**Table 14: Safe and Institutionalized Spaces within Counties**

Are there safe and institutionalized spaces in your county?	# of Respondents	%
No	676	76
Yes	213	24
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
How would you rate the EFFECTIVENESS of these spaces?	# of Respondents	%
Very Effective	42	20
Effective	21	10
Average	139	65
Less effective	11	5
Not Effective	0	-
Not Sure	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>100</b>

The assessment sought to establish the highest level of education for the respondents. The findings, as presented in the table below, show that a majority of 382 (43%) have completed university.

### 3.4.2.2 Responsibility in Creation of Safe Spaces

The survey inquired who, in the view of the respondents, was most responsible for creation of space spaces for political dialogue between the youth and leaders in the county. The findings, as shown in the table below, indicated that a majority of the youth (39%) believe that county governments are most responsible for this, followed by youth groups (17%) and NGOs (12%).

**Table 15: Who is Most Responsible to Create Safe Spaces in the Counties?**

Who in your view is MOST RESPONSIBLE for creation of a SAFE SPACE for political dialogue in your county?	# of Respondents	%
County Government	348	39
Individual Youth	80	9
Media	9	1
National Government	98	11
NGOs	106	12
Not sure	17	2
Youth Groups	169	19
No Response	62	7
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.4.2.3 Youth Engagement in Advocacy

The survey assessed if the respondents knew of youth who are engaged in consistently advocating for youth issues both at the national and county levels. A majority of 679 respondents (76.4%) reported that they were aware of such youth.

The respondents were then asked to specify which category of issues usually define the focus of the youth who engage in advocacy. There was a close call between economic issues (38.2%) and social issues (36.8%). From a gender perspective, there were more males who voted for economic issues (61%) and more females who voted for social issues (56%) as the priority area of focus in advocacy.

The survey inquired whether the respondents were aware of any youth who has been victimized/penalized/suffered for advocating for his interests/rights in their county. A total of 59.5% answered in the affirmative. Additionally, the survey inquired what those who have been victimized usually do to address the situation. A majority of 203 youth (74%) indicated that such youth usually highlight the issue on social media while only 24% seek legal redress.

The findings are shown in the table below.

### 3.3.4 Harnessing Youth Voices in SDGs Implementation

**Table 16: Youth Engagement in Advocacy**

Are there youth known to you, who <b>CONSISTENTLY</b> monitor/follow-up on youth issues both at the national and county levels?	# of Respondents	%
No	160	18.0
Yes	679	76.4
No response	50	5.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
If YES above, what are the main issues that they <b>FOCUS</b> on in their advocacy?	# of Respondents	%
Economic Issues	259	38.2
Political Issues	170	25.0
Social Issues	250	36.8
<b>Total</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>100</b>
Are you aware of any <b>YOUTH</b> who has been victimized/penalized/suffered for <b>ADVOCATING</b> for his interests/rights in your county?	# of Respondents	%
No	274	40.5
Yes	405	59.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>679</b>	<b>100</b>
If YES above, what <b>RECOURSE</b> (response/solution) was taken – either by the victim or his fellow youth?	# of Respondents	%
File a case in court	66	24
Highlight the issue on social media	203	74
Other	5	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>274</b>	<b>100</b>

#### 3.4.2.4 Advocacy and Civic Awareness

The survey assessed the level of awareness of the youth on issues like democratic values in politics, rule of law, gender parity and inclusive politics.

The findings show that on Democratic Values, a majority of the respondents (400; 45%) indicated that they have an average level of awareness followed by those who indicated that they have a high level of awareness (40%). On Rule of Law a majority of respondents (408; 46%) indicated that they have an average level of awareness followed by those who indicated that they have a high level of awareness (45%) on this theme. On Gender Parity in Politics, a majority of respondents (419; 47%) indicated that they have an average level of awareness followed by those who indicated that they have a high level of awareness (39%) on this theme.

On Inclusiveness in Politics, a majority of respondents (427; 48%) indicated that they have an average level of awareness followed by those who indicated that they have a high level of awareness (39%) on this theme. On AWARENESS of their rights as youth and the government's responsibility to ensure that they access those rights, a majority of respondents (471; 53%) indicated that they have a high level of awareness followed by those who indicated that they have an average level of awareness (32%) on this theme. From a gender perspective, a majority of the male respondents indicated that their level of awareness was very high (43%) compared to female respondents of whom a majority reported that their level of awareness was high (51%). On ABILITY to ADVOCATE for their interests at both national and county government levels, a majority of respondents (436; 49%) indicated that they have a good level of ability followed by those who indicated that they have an average ability (33%) on this theme.

The table below contains further details.

**Table 17: Advocacy and Civic Awareness**

<b>What is your level of awareness of the democratic values in politics?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very high	71	8
High	356	40
Average	400	45
Low	44	5
Very Low	18	2
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>What is your level of awareness of the Rule of Law in politics?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very high	37	4
High	400	45
Average	408	46
Low	44	5
Very Low	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>What is your level of awareness of Gender Parity in politics?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very high	107	12
High	347	39
Average	419	47
Low	8	1
Very Low	8	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>What is your level of awareness of Inclusiveness in politics?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very high	89	10
High	347	39
Average	427	48
Low	17	2
Very Low	9	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>What is your level of AWARENESS of your rights as a youth and the government's responsibility to ensure that you access those rights?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very high	116	13
High	471	53
Average	284	32
Low	18	2
Very Low	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>How would you rate your ABILITY to ADVOCATE for your interests at both national and county government levels?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Good	151	17
Good	436	49
Average	293	33
Low	9	1
Very Low	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>



### 3.4.2.5 Areas of Competence in Advocacy

The survey assessed the levels of competence in advocacy amongst the youth. This covered areas like access to information from public offices, online advocacy, and organizing demos amongst others. The scoring was a rank order one, where the respondents were to indicate multiple areas of competence, based on sequence.

The findings, as outlined in the table below, show that organizing demos is ranked as the first one (32%) followed by writing petitions (21%) and online/virtual advocacy (20%).

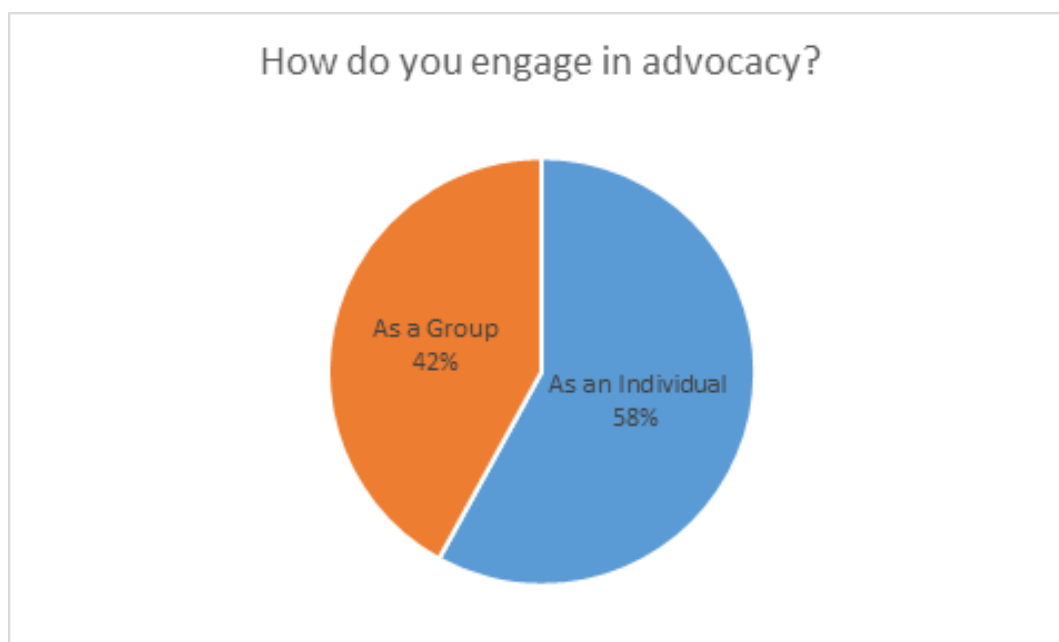
**Table 18: Areas of Competence in Advocacy**

What areas are you competent when it comes to advocating for your rights/interests?	# of Respondents	%
Access to info from public offices	169	19
Online/virtual advocacy	178	20
Organizing for protest demos	284	32
Others: (Please specify)	9	1
Tracking budget implementation	62	7
Writing petitions	187	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.4.2.6 Youth Group Dynamics in Advocacy Work

The survey assessed elements related to youth group dynamics in advocacy work. This included whether the youth engage as individuals or as a group and factors underlying such choices.

On the question of how they operate in advocacy work, majority of the respondents (516; 58%) indicated that they usually engage as individuals. This is demonstrated in the figure below.



**Figure 1: Youth Engagement in Advocacy**

The survey interrogated the factors that hinder the youth from working in groups. The respondents were permitted to choose various reasons.

The main reasons were limited financial support (99%) followed by weak group management (94%). The other reasons are listed in the table below.

**Table 19: Factors that hinder youth from working as groups**

<b>What factors hinder you from working as a GROUP when it comes to advocating for your interests?</b>	<b># of Respondents</b>	<b>%</b>
Lack of adequate information	329	37
Limited (lack of) financial support	880	99
Weak group management	773	94
Limited understanding of public policy	836	87
Others	480	54
<b>Total</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>

In addition to the above, the survey inquired on what areas the youth need support in order to engage in advocacy much more effectively, either as groups or individuals. The broad areas cited in the responses include the following;

- I. Financial support to facilitate purchase of bundles for online activism.
- II. Trainings to improve group cohesion so that they may act in common purpose
- III. Trainings on strategies for approaching duty bearers especially those in higher ranks, and passing the message that the youth want addressed.
- IV. Connections to organizations that undertake mentorship for youth groups involved in activism.
- V. Opportunities for cross-county engagements with other youth groups to learn from their experience and knowledge.

### 3.4.3 Output Level Indicators

The survey also assessed various aspects under output level indicators including youth engagement with decision makers at the county level, community centered accountability mechanisms, the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and the use of the CIDP amongst others. The findings are discussed in detail further on.

#### 3.4.3.1 Engagements with County Officials

The survey inquired how often the respondents have engagements with decision makers in their respective counties. The decision makers in this case include Governors, MCAs, CECs, Chief Officers, and Directors of Departments.

The findings show that a majority of the youth (444;50%) often engage the decision makers. This is followed by those who reported that their engagements are rare (373; 42%). From a gender dimension, there was a higher engagement by males (at 59% - 525) compared to females (41% - 364).

A follow-up question of who usually initiates the engagements shows that this is done by the youth groups (434; 48.8%) followed by county officials (328; 36.9%).

A query on the extent to which these engagements are inclusive shows that a majority of the respondents (433; 48.7%) reported them to be inclusive to a small extent.

The table below contains further information on the findings.

### 3.4.3.2 Trainings in Advocacy

The survey sought to establish the status of the youth's involvement in advocacy from a perspective of training.

**Table 20: Engagements with County Officials**

<b>How often do youth have engagements with decision makers in your county?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Often	44	5
Often	444	50
Rarely	373	42
Never	26	3
Not Sure	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>Who usually INITIATES the engagements with the decision makers?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Individual YOUTH	63	7.1
Youth Groups	434	48.8
County Officials	328	36.9
Not Sure	43	4.8
Others (specify)	21	2.4
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100%</b>
<b>To WHAT EXTENT are these engagements with decision makers (Governor, MCA, CEC, Chief Officer, Directors etc.) at the county level INCLUSIVE?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
To a VERY great extent	43	4.8
To a great extent	360	40.5
To a small extent	433	48.7
Not inclusive	53	6
Not sure	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>

On the question of whether the youth had received any training in the last two years on how to become effective advocates of youth interests, a majority of the respondents (756; 85%) indicated that they had not received any training. This is show in the figure below.



**Figure 2: Findings on whether respondents had received training on youth advocacy**

From a gender perspective, amongst those who indicated that they have received training, a majority were males at 54% - 480.

Amongst those who reported to have received trainings in the past, the following organizations were listed as having provided those trainings;

- I. ALX Africa
- II. Digital Opportunity Trust
- III. Ajira Digital
- IV. Maskani ya Taifa
- V. Konrad Adenauer Stiftung (KAS)
- VI. Kericho Youth Network
- VII. YOMA Platform
- VIII. Google
- IX. Mawego Technical Training Institute
- X. Siasa Place
- XI. Mt. Kenya University
- XII. Africa Digital Media Institute (ADMI)
- XIII. Youth Café
- XIV. Nairobis Trust

### 3.4.3.3 Community Centered Accountability Mechanisms

The survey sought to establish the existence of community centered accountability mechanisms and how they were functioning.

The question on whether there are community centered accountability mechanisms in the respondents' counties had a majority (525; 59%) answering in the affirmative. A follow-up question on who set up the community accountability mechanisms showed that a majority of the respondents (299; 57%) believed it's the Community Leaders, followed by NGOs/CBOs (121; 23%). The effectiveness of the community centered accountability mechanisms was interrogated and the findings show that a majority of the respondents reported that they were average (184; 35%).

On the question of youth involvement in the community centered accountability mechanisms a majority of the respondents (393; 75%) answered in the affirmative. The analysis from a gender prism showed a near equal split with 49% female and 51% male participation in these community centered accountability mechanisms.

The detailed findings on these issues are contained in the table below.

**Table 21: Community Centered Accountability Mechanisms**

<b>Are there any COMMUNITY CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS in your county?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	364	<b>41</b>
Yes	525	<b>59</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>If YES above, who set up the COMMUNITY CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Youth Group(s)	94	<b>18</b>
Community Leaders	299	<b>57</b>
NGO/CBO	121	<b>23</b>
Others (specify):	11	<b>2</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>How EFFECTIVE are the COMMUNITY CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS in your area/county?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Very Effective	31	6
Effective	163	31
Average	184	35
Less Effective	79	15
Not Effective	42	8
Not Sure	26	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Are youth involved in the COMMUNITY CENTERED ACCOUNTABILITY MECHANISMS in your area/county?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	131	25
Yes	394	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>525</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.4.3.4 Sustainable Development Goals

The survey assessed the intersection between Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and youth advocacy practices in the target counties.

On the question of awareness on the part of the youth about SDGs, a majority of the respondents (764; 86%) answered in the affirmative. However, a minority (19%) reported to have participated in initiatives to promote the implementation of the SDGs.

The table below contains further details.

**Table 22: Sustainable Development Goals and Youth Advocacy Practices**

<b>Are you aware of Sustainable Development Goals?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	125	14
Yes	764	86
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Have you participated in any initiative to promote the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	720	81
Yes	169	19
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.4.3.5 Youth Advocacy and CIDPs

The survey sought to establish youth involvement in the development and implementation of the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs).

On the question of awareness of the CIDPs amongst the youth, a majority of the respondents (773; 87%) answered in the affirmative. Of these, 410 were male (53%) and 363 were female (47%).

On the question of whether the youth had participated in the development of the CIDPs in their counties, a majority of the respondents (526; 68%) confirmed their participation. This is significant, considering that the survey was conducted during the period just after the development of Kenya's third generation CIDPs.

On the question of the extent to which the youth considered their participation in the development of the CIDP meaningful, a majority of the respondents (305; 58%) indicated that their participation was meaningful to a great extent.

The youth were also asked whether they believe that they have the knowledge and resources to follow up on the implementation of youth related initiatives in the new County Integrated Development Plan. A majority of the respondents (421; 80%) answered in the affirmative.

## 3.5 Findings on Youth Survey on Digital Activism

The survey sought to establish a number of outcomes related to digital advocacy by youth who engage in governance issues within their counties. This covered issues like level of engagement (local or national), technical knowledge in blogging, approaches to digital activism (whether as individuals or as a group), and level of response by government officials amongst others.

Further details of these findings are in the table below.

**Table 23: Youth Advocacy and the CIDPs**

<b>Are you aware of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) of your county?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	116	13
Yes	773	87
<b>Total</b>	<b>889</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Have you participated, in your capacity as a youth, in its development/formulation in the past?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	247	32
Yes	526	68
<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>If YES above, TO WHAT EXTENT would you say that your participation was MEANINGFUL?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
To a very great extent	37	7
To a great extent	305	58
To a small extent	174	33
Not inclusive	10	2
Not sure	0	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Do you believe you have the knowledge and resources to follow up on the implementation of the youth related initiatives in the new County Integrated Development Plan?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	58	11
Not Sure	47	9
Yes	421	80
<b>Total</b>	<b>526</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.5.1 Demographic Information

A total of 1,012 youth responded to the survey of which the majority were male (596; 59%). Additionally, the largest age-group were in the category of those aged 18 – 24 years (42%) followed by those aged 25 – 30 years (38%). The table below gives further details.

**Table 24: Demographic Information of Respondents in Digital Activism Survey**

Age Group	Sex	# of Respondents	%
18-24 years	Female	191	
	Male	234	
<b>Total</b>		<b>425</b>	<b>42%</b>
25-30 years	Female	142	
	Male	242	
<b>Total</b>		<b>384</b>	<b>38%</b>
31-35 years	Female	83	
	Male	120	
<b>Total</b>		<b>203</b>	<b>20%</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>1,012</b>	<b>100%</b>

The assessment about the respondents' highest level of education. The findings show that a majority of the respondents have completed college (445; 44%). The table below gives more information.

**Table 25: Highest Level of Education for Respondents for Digital Advocacy**

Highest Level of Education	# of Respondents	%
Completed College	445	44
Completed Secondary	171	17
Completed University	396	39
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>100%</b>

The findings related to highest level of education indicate that the youth in question are literate enough to understand the governance issues at play and also make credible proposals about what policy priorities need to be implemented by the duty bearers.



## 3.5.2 Preliminary Details on Digital Advocacy

Various issues were assessed including engagement in online advocacy on governance issues related to the youth, status of training for endeavors, and financing of advocacy activities amongst others.

On the question of engagement in online advocacy on youth issues, a majority of the respondents (961; 95%) confirmed their participation in this. Related to the above was a query whether the engagement is limited to county-specific issues or there is engagement on national issues too. A majority of the respondents (788; 82%) indicated that they are involved in advocacy of both county and national issues.

The respondents were asked if they are full time bloggers to which the majority (83%) indicated that they were not.

The youth were also asked if they have formal training in Digital Advocacy Skills covering areas like online campaigns, digital marketing, and content creation amongst others. A majority of 88% indicated that they do not have such training. On the question of whether they usually get funded by other organizations to champion those entities' interests online, a majority of 80% indicated that they do not do commercial blogging.

Additional information on these findings is contained in the table below.

**Table 26: Preliminary Information on Digital Advocacy**

<b>Do you engage in online advocacy – especially on GOVERNANCE ISSUES related to the youth?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	51	5
Yes	961	95
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Do you only engage in issues related to your county or do you engage in national ones too?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Both County and National Issues	788	82
County issues only	48	5
National issues only	125	13
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Are you a Full Time Blogger?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	840	83
Yes	172	17
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Do you have formal training in DIGITAL ADVOCACY SKILLS (including online campaigns, digital marketing etc.)</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	891	88
Yes	121	12
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Are you (at times) FUNDED by individuals/institutions to advocate/champion for their concerns online?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	810	80
Yes	202	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,012</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.5.3 Preferences on Social Media Platforms in Digital Advocacy

The survey sought to establish which social media platforms the youth prefer to use when undertaking digital advocacy. The respondents were asked to rank their preferred platforms in order of usage. The findings show that Twitter is the most preferred platform as a 1st Choice (54.2%) followed by Facebook as a 2nd Choice (59.5%) and finally WhatsApp as a 3rd Choice (58.7%).

Further details are contained in the table below.

**Table 27: Preferred Social Media Platforms in Digital Advocacy**

What SOCIAL MEDIA platforms do you USE to engage in online advocacy?	Social Media Platform	n	%
1st Choice	Facebook	216	22.5%
	Instagram	42	4.4%
	TikTok	42	4.4%
	Twitter	522	54.2%
	WhatsApp	139	14.5%
<b>Total</b>		<b>961</b>	<b>100%</b>
		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
2nd choice	Facebook	572	59.5
	Instagram	48	5
	TikTok	18	1.9
	Twitter	195	20.3
	WhatsApp	128	13.3
<b>Total</b>		<b>961</b>	<b>100%</b>
		<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
3rd choice	Facebook	97	10.1
	Instagram	144	15
	TikTok	34	3.5
	Twitter	122	12.7
	WhatsApp	564	58.7
<b>Total</b>		<b>961</b>	<b>100%</b>

### 3.5.4 Review of governance issues that were dealt with in 2022

This section explores the responses on issues like themes on which advocacy took place on, initiation and coordination of the digital campaign, and engagement of bloggers.

The findings in the table above are further illustrated in the figure below.

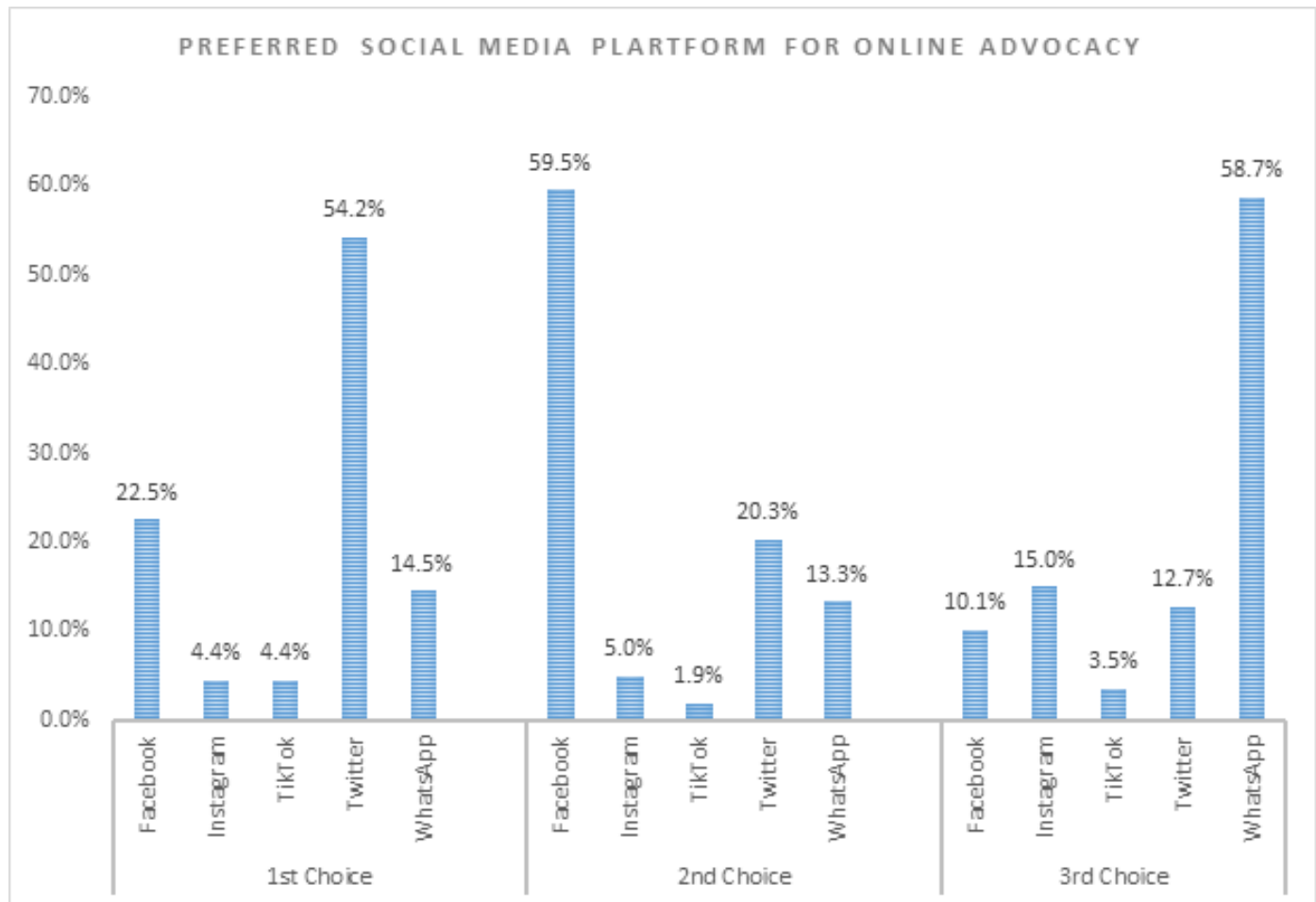
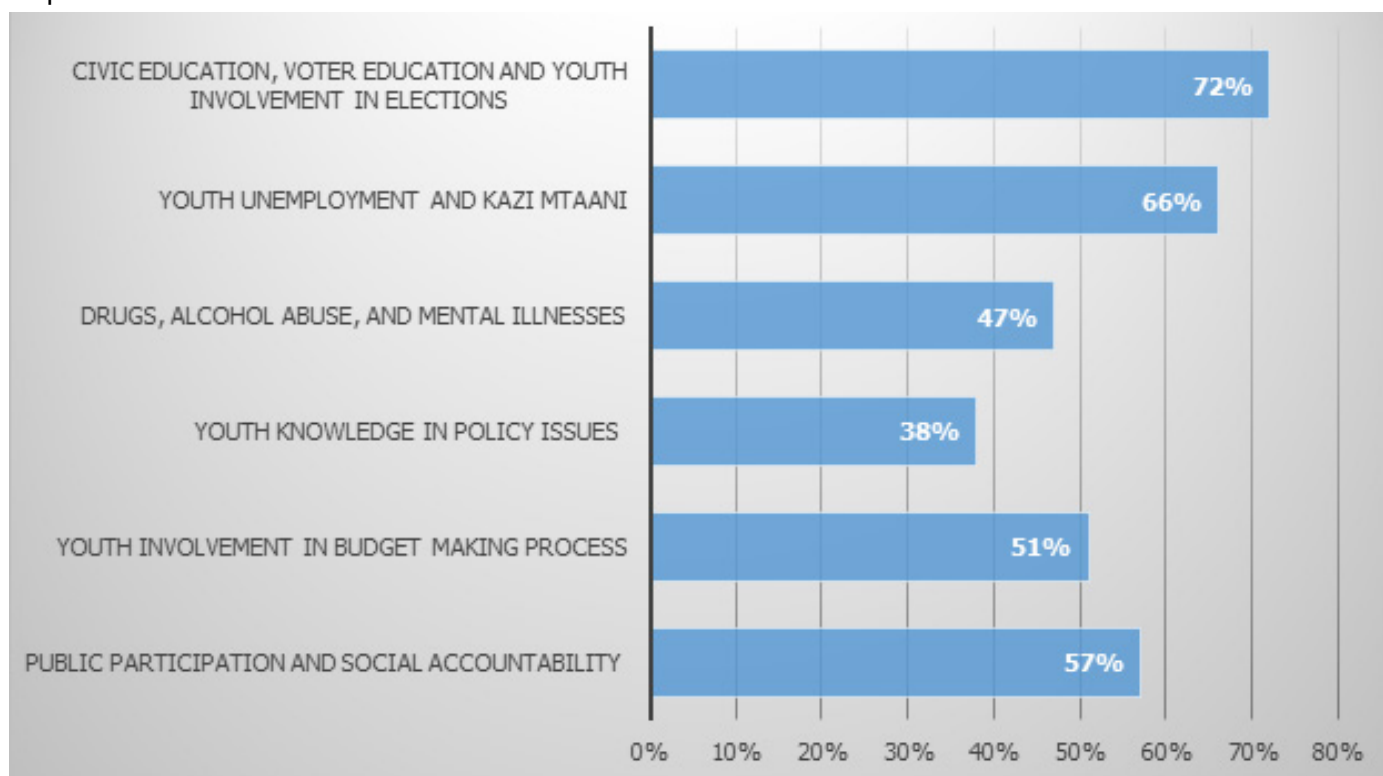


Figure 3: Preferred Social Media Platform for Online Advocacy

This section explores the responses on issues like themes on which advocacy took place on, initiation and coordination of the digital campaign, and engagement of bloggers.

### 3.5.4.1 Advocacy Themes

The assessment reviewed the key themes around which the respondents conducted online advocacy. These ranged from issues on unemployment, the 2022 General Elections, and Budget Making Process amongst others. The figure below shows the six key themes which formed areas of online engagement by the respondents.



**Figure 4: Online Advocacy Themes – 2022**

## 3.5.4 Review of governance issues that were dealt with in 2022

### 3.5.4.2 Management of Online Advocacy

The assessment queried aspects of how the online campaigns were managed including initiation of the advocacy campaigns and engagement of bloggers.

Based on the table below, a majority of the respondents indicated that initiation of the campaigns was largely by individuals (634; 66%). Additionally, on the question of how the digital campaign was initially coordinated, a majority of the respondents indicated that it was initially done off-line before going online (875; 91%).

The respondents were asked whether they recruited bloggers to assist in their digital campaign. A majority of the respondents (673; 70%) confirmed to soliciting the support of bloggers. On the question of whether they paid the bloggers, a majority (498; 74%) indicated that the bloggers' assistance was not contingent on payment. For those who made payments, they indicated that the cost was largely less than KSh.500/day.

The table below gives further details of these findings.

**Table 28: Management of Online Advocacy**

<b>Who initiated the digital campaign around the issues identified above?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Self	634	66
Youth Group	279	29
Another Person/Group	48	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>How was your digital campaign initially coordinated?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Off-line before going online	875	91
Started online and grew organically	86	9
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Did you engage other bloggers to help in pushing your campaign?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	288	30
Yes	673	70
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>If YES above, were the bloggers paid for their services/support?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	498	74
Yes	175	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>673</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>If YES above, how much did you pay each blogger for their services?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Between Ksh.500-1000/day	14	8
Less than Ksh.500/day	159	91
Over Ksh.1000/day	2	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.5.4.3 Assessing levels of response to online campaigns by Duty Bearers

The survey sought to establish the level of response amongst the duty bearers, to queries raised online by the youth. Some of the issues addressed include whether the questions by the youth were responded to, and if this was done within reasonable time, and areas that the duty bearers (county officials) possess the required skill to engage the youth and address their grievances via digital channels.

The findings indicate the following;

- A majority of the youth (53%) indicated that their queries were not responded to by the county governments after they posted them online (in the various platforms).
- Amongst those who received a response to their queries, there was a close tie between those who indicated that the response was satisfactory (40%) and those who indicated that their response was not satisfactory (39%).
- Additionally, a majority of those who received responses to their queries reported that the responses were not given within reasonable time (29%).

**Table 29: Assessing levels of response to online campaigns by duty bearers**

<b>When you posted issues/complaints/questions online, were they RESPONDED to by the DUTY BEARERS/AUTHORITIES you had addressed?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	509	53
Yes	452	47
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Was the response SATISFACTORY?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Not Satisfactory	180	40
Satisfactory	176	39
Very Satisfactory	96	21
<b>Total</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>Was the response given within a reasonable period of time?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No, it delayed	283	29
No, it was never given	509	53
Yes	169	18
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>From your online engagements, do you believe officials of the county government have ADEQUATE ABILITY AND TRAINING to address the questions and complaints that the youth raise through online platforms?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
No	519	54
Yes	442	46
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>If NO in (Q.3.4) above, what specific areas do you recommend that they improve in?</b>	<b>n</b>	<b>%</b>
Follow through mechanisms	202	39
Online etiquette	42	8
Understanding of youth grievances	249	48
	26	5
<b>Total</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>100</b>

### 3.5.4.4 Assessment of Success Rate in Online/Virtual Advocacy

The survey sought to establish the extent to which the online advocacy initiatives by the youth had been successful. The aspects assessed include factors accounting for the performance, the social media platform that had the greatest impact, and the challenges encountered, amongst others.

On the question of rating the level of success of the online advocacy campaigns, a majority of the youth indicated that it was successful (625; 65%) while there was a tie amongst those who reported that it was very successful and those who hold that the success was average. The table below gives further details.

**Table 30: Assessment of the Success Rate in Online Advocacy**

How would you rate the level of success, in the online campaigns you have engaged in, over the last one year?	n	%
Average	154	16
Less successful	28	3
Not successful	0	-
Successful	625	65
Very successful	154	16
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>

There were various factors which according to the youth, accounted for the performance in the online campaigns. These include the following;

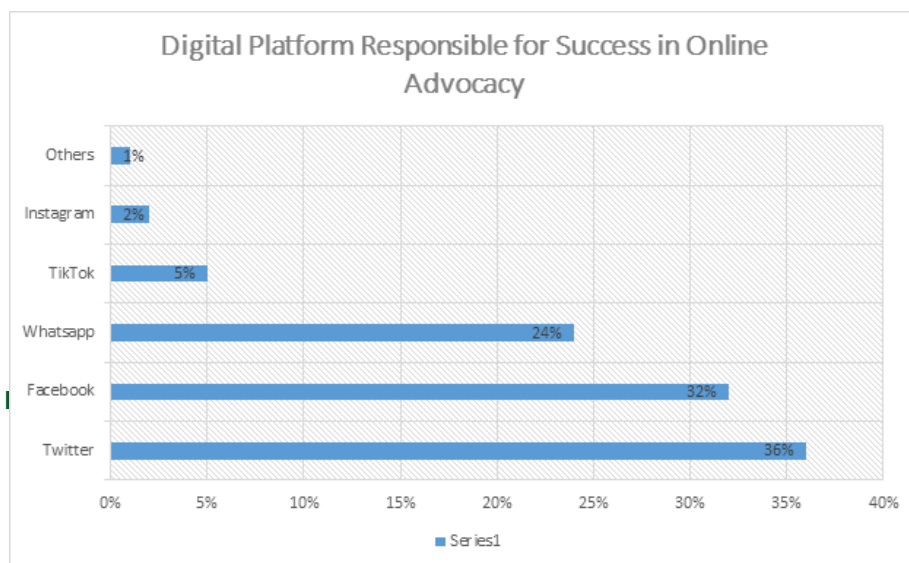
- Internet access – Availability of resources to purchase bundles or pay for Wi-Fi connection.
- Skills in areas like content creation, data analytics, linking social and traditional media, amongst others.
- Clear understanding of the policy issue at play and which public officer to raise it with.
- Ability to generate interest amongst other youth to also support a particular cause.
- Strategic planning before roll-out of a campaign, including mobilization and advertisement before the main digital engagements.
- Resilience – capacity to stay consistent and ensure the aims and objectives of a particular campaign are achieved.

The youth were also asked to identify the digital platform that accounted for the greatest success in the online campaigns. The analysis shows that Twitter was reported as the most consequential digital platform at 36% followed by Facebook at 32%. The table below gives further details.

**Table 31: Digital Platform that accounted for the online advocacy campaign**

Digital Platform	n	%
Twitter	346	36
Facebook	307	32
WhatsApp	231	24
Instagram	19	2
TikTok	48	5
Others	10	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>961</b>	<b>100</b>

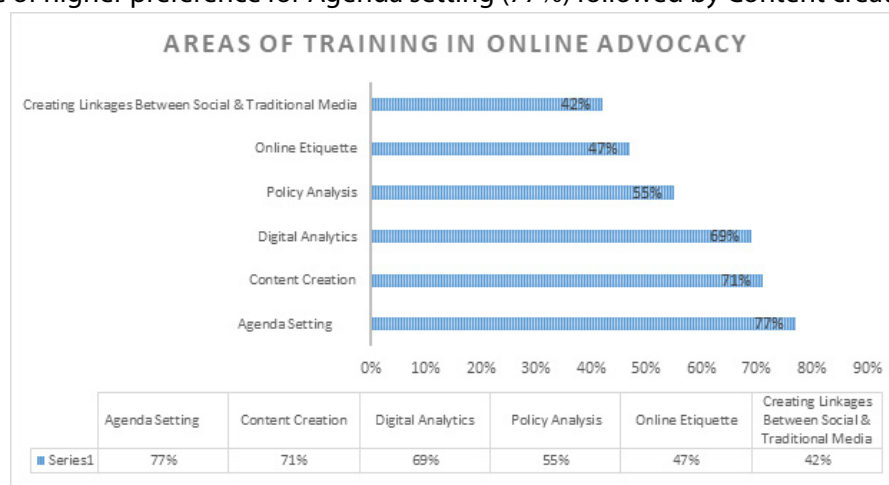
The information above is further illustrated in the figure below.



Despite the notable success in the digital campaigns, there are a raft of challenges that the youth cited as persistent and hindering their progress in conducting a sustainable culture of online advocacy. These include the following;

- Lack of adequate financial resources to afford internet connectivity.
- Lack of adequate information due to lack of provision/release of all the policy documents by county authorities.
- Lack of robust understanding of policy processes and procedures within the county government structure, to ensure that the youth engage from a point of knowledge and competence.
- Inadequate inter-group coordination amongst the youth to strengthen their bargaining power and increase the impact of their advocacy.
- Fear of reprisals from the government officials targeted by the advocacy/criticism over their unsatisfactory work.

Finally, survey inquired about the skills the youth need training in, to become more effective in championing for youth issues/rights online. The figure below shows the levels of preferences against different skill-sets, with evidence of higher preference for Agenda setting (77%) followed by Content creation (71%).



**Figure 6: Areas of Training in online advocacy**



## 4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

This section outlines recommendations touching on different aspects including the proposed activities under the project, the implementation approach, the indicators in the log frame, and the monitoring and evaluation framework, amongst others.

### 4.1 Recommendations on the Proposed Activities

In line with the findings in the preceding section, the proposed activities are relevant, and responsive to prevailing needs. They also target a group within the counties which is in dire need for inclusion into more meaningful spaces of governance. Additionally, they are positioned in a way that will add value to both the competence of the county officials, and the programmes that counties intend to implement, targeting youth, in the next five years.

Under this, the following interventions can be implemented in the short-to-medium term;

- i. Support counties to conduct dissemination and validation workshops that unpack the CIDP's and view them through a youth lens. This is a strategic opportunity to shape the focus and priority of individual counties, in the next five years, in terms of the kinds of programmes that are prioritized, and received funding, from the target counties. Coincidentally, all the target counties are at the stage of finalizing the zero drafts of their CIDPs, ahead of the validation phase.
- ii. Repurpose trainings for Village/Ward/Sub-County Administrators since all counties use these officials as the mobilization agents for all their public participation forums.

### 4.2 Recommendations on the Implementation Approach

There are two things to consider in this regard, which also fall under actions that can be taken in the short-to-medium term;

#### 4.2.1 Youth/Group Model

The project's plan to utilize existing youth groups as an anchor of its overall strategy is well thought out. However, virtually all the youth groups do not seem to have erudite structures and a vibrant membership. Their operations are largely ad hoc/part-time because the members are engaged in other income generation activities, besides those in school. There are other groups whose membership consists of persons who are past 35 years, therefore no longer fall within the category of what is constitutionally defined as youth.

At the county level, there is no clear structure that mobilizes the groups around a common agenda and direction. Therefore, it is recommended that;

- i. There is need to conduct a fresh mapping of well-structured youth groups to ensure that the project is well implemented and the participation of these youth groups remains tenable.
- ii. The youth groups are remobilized, trained and supported to be adequately functional before incorporation into the project activities.
- iii. The county leaderships should be supported to establish Technical Working Groups that bring together different youth actors within their specific counties, as a common platform of peer engagement and also coordination by the county authorities in charge of youth affairs.

## 4.2.2 County-specific needs

There is a risk if a one-suit-fits-all approach is taken in rolling out project activities in all the counties, owing to the fact that each county has unique needs and varying perceptions of how the project should engage with them. In order to respond to the unique needs and requests of each county, customization should be a key consideration. The table below summarizes the baseline survey findings for each of the counties, highlighting the specific proposals that the stakeholders proposed, as the ideal

**Table 32: County-specific Project roll-out approach**

County	Recommendations by Stakeholders
Busia	Conduct a formal dissemination workshop to share the findings of both the baseline survey and the project proposal, before agreeing on the next steps.
Homabay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Hold an inception meeting with the CECM and CO in charge of youth affairs, agree on the areas of focus for the project in the county, draw an MOU and roll out implementation.</li> <li>ii. The County will take lead in development of the MOU, which will be signed by the Governor before rollout. Only activities aligned to the CIDP (2022 – 2027) will be admissible.</li> <li>iii. An induction meeting will need to be held, bringing in all the county officials who will, in one or another way participate in the project.</li> </ul>
Kericho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Conduct an inception meeting with the department in charge of youth affairs and public participation to provide a clear briefing of the project activities</li> <li>ii. Hold a separate briefing/meeting with the County Assembly Committee on Youth Affairs, Sports, Culture and ICT, and agree on areas of engagement and support.</li> </ul>
Kitui	Conduct an inception meeting to brief the county officials (Youth Affairs department) on the project activities. This will be followed by development of an MOU, which will be signed by the Governor before commencement of implementation.
Lamu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Send them a copy of the project proposal for their analysis</li> <li>ii. Provide them information on the budget and specific activities that the county will benefit from the project</li> <li>iii. Hold a 2-day workshop to discuss the proposed activities and induct the officials who will be working with the project.</li> <li>iv. The outcome of this workshop will be an MOU between the project consortium and the county.</li> </ul> <p>NB: The county leadership is keener on activities that focus on economic empowerment of the youth, more than political consciousness and civic engagement</p>
Nairobi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. An MOU will need to be developed by the Legal Affairs department before roll-out of the project</li> <li>ii. The department that deals with donor funded projects ought to be roped in during the inception meetings</li> </ul>

## 4.3 Recommendations on the Log frame Indicators

Overall, the indicators are well structured and moderately ambitious, pointing to a measured approach in terms of what the project aims to achieve. However, there are a few recommendations on specific indicators, as outlined in the table below.

**Table 33: Recommendations on the Log frame Indicators**

Indicator Level	Indicators	Recommendation
<b>Impact/Goal</b>	Youth have equal access to civic and political rights, service and opportunities for sustainable development	Indicator is well reasoned and framed
<b>Outcome</b>	Safe and institutionalized spaces for dialogue between youth and all relevant governance institutions and political actors	<p><b>Comment:</b> The interaction between the youth and the governance institutions can go beyond dialoguing.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Rephrase to 'Safe and institutionalized spaces for engagement between youth and all relevant governance institutions and political actors</p>
	Youth are more aware of internalized democratic values, rule of law, gender sensitive and inclusive politics	<p><b>Comment:</b> Current phrasing of this indicator makes it difficult to measure</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Increased awareness of youth on democratic values, rule of law, gender sensitivity and inclusive politics</p>
	Youth civic actors that voice and monitor youth interests at the national and county levels	<p><b>Comment:</b> Current phrasing of this indicator makes it difficult to measure</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Growth in number of youth civic actors that advocate for youth interests at both the county and national levels</p>
	Formal and informal youth groups/organizations have capacity and legitimacy to influence government, business and societal actors in various areas including social and economic development	<p><b>Comment:</b> Difficult to measure legitimacy, in this case.</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Enhanced capacity amongst both formal and informal youth groups/organizations to influence state and non-state actors for socio-political and economic well-being of the youth.</p>
<b>Output</b>	Spaces for young people engagement with decision makers expanded	<p><b>Comment:</b> Considering that there are counties where these spaces are not there, there will be need to build in the aspect of 'establishment' in the indicator</p> <p><b>Recommendation:</b> Spaces for young people engagement with decision makers expanded/ established</p>
	Support to youth-led engagements in inclusive political and democratic processes	Youth-led engagements in inclusive political and democratic processes supported
	Young men and women are sensitized to become effective civic actors	No comment
	Community centered accountability mechanisms established	No comment
	Youth voices harnessed and consolidated in the implementation of the SDGs	No comment
	Capacity development offered to formal and informal youth groups	No comment

## Auxiliary Comments on the Indicators

- i. Indicators No. 3 and 4 under Outcome category shows that there is no material difference between them. There is need to revisit this and either merge or develop a totally different indicator.
- ii. There is need to improve the connection in how the Output Indicators are contributing to achievement of the Outcome Indicators. The synchrony is not optimal yet.

## 4.4 Recommendations on the Project's Monitoring and Evaluation Framework

As things stand, there is no clear monitoring and evaluation plan for the STPYV project. Apart from the log frame, which contains clear indicators, there is need to institute a robust monitoring and evaluation framework, if at all the performance of the project is going to be tracked and documented well. The log frame alone cannot constitute a satisfactory monitoring and evaluation framework for a multilayered, multi-themed project like this, which is being implemented by a consortium, in six counties, targeting youth who are diverse on various fronts.

The monitoring and evaluation plan will be central in establishing a clear results framework, that goes beyond the indicators in the log frame. Therefore, besides the log-frame, there is need to develop an end-to-end Monitoring and Evaluation Framework, which contains, inter alia, the following elements;

- i. Performance matrix
- ii. Guide-notes on data collection methodologies for the different data sets
- iii. Data dissemination plan, with details on the types of information, frequency of dissemination, target audience, proposed forums and those responsible for this
- iv. Data Quality Assurance plan, to ensure data integrity across the monitoring and evaluation value-chain
- v. Evaluation Approaches with information on evaluation criteria, key questions, methodology, frequency (baseline/midterm/end-term), implementation timelines, and institutions/individuals responsible etc.
- vi. Data Management Plan, demonstrating all the knowledge management protocols to ensure data safety by all people handling it.
- vii. Capacity building plan, which shows how the ministry will continue to pull out lessons and recommendations from the monitoring and evaluation process, to enhance the capacity of its institutions and individuals to deliver on the intended goals.
- viii. Monitoring and Evaluation Budget, to demonstrate the financial commitment to implementing the said plan.

## 4.5 Auxiliary Recommendations

These include the following cross-cutting recommendations;

There is opportunity for the project to support the following in the short-to-medium term;

- i. Establishment of functioning monitoring and evaluation mechanisms, to aid in tracking how counties are performing on youth issues. Currently, there are M&E Departments and personnel that are charged with tracking of performance of all departments. Besides, they are not well resourced both in financial and technical capacities to do this, how much less keeping tabs on youth specific elements amongst all the different interventions by the county?
- ii. Development of social media strategy and training personnel to effectively implement the strategy for effective engagement with the youth.
- iii. Development of public participation frameworks to enable counties to have a frame of reference in the way they engage the youth.
- iv. Development of youth policies to define pathways through which the counties can sustainably implement specific youth-related programmes.
- v. Institution of community-centered accountability mechanisms, through trainings, to achieve citizen-driven complaints reporting and community score cards.
- vi. Provide training and capacity building interventions targeting the youth around the issues raised as shortcomings in their bid to engage in digital advocacy in a sustainable manner.

## 4.6 Recommendations – Looking into the future

Considering that this is a 4-year project, it will be important to;

- i. Ensure that a midterm evaluation is conducted by the end of the second year, to measure progress, rethink implementation approaches, and repurpose and refocus how the project moves successfully to the end of the cycle. Ordinarily, short-run projects (< one year) can make do with only baseline and end-term evaluations.
- ii. By and large, as a best practice in the evaluation community, retain the baseline tools and modify them appropriately for the midterm and end-term evaluations. One key modification will be to integrate the OECD-DAC Criteria into the tools as required, to cover assessment of the project's Relevance, Effectiveness, Efficiency, Coherence, Impact, and Sustainability.

The table below outlines these recommendations in a phased manner.

**Table 33: Recommendations on the Log frame Indicators**

Scheduling	Recommendations
Short-term (1 – 6 months)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mapping of youth groups in all the target counties. This can include identifying their capacities in terms of leadership/membership/activities/location etc.</li> <li>2. Signing of MoUs with different counties for establishment of a framework of partnership</li> <li>3. Organize dissemination workshops for the CIDPs, targeting youth</li> <li>4. Setting up robust M&amp;E framework for the project, including development of data collection tools, defining communication channels for dissemination of findings, and other critical elements</li> <li>5. Mapping gaps in youth-related policies in all the six target counties and developing a plan to provide technical support to bridge those gaps.</li> </ol>
Medium-term (6 – 18 months)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Conduct a training needs assessment of county officials in the departments where the project is to engage with</li> <li>2. Conduct a training needs assessment for youth groups especially in the areas of advocacy preparation, use of digital platforms for activism, setting up community-centered accountability mechanisms amongst others</li> <li>3. Roll-out targeted trainings for the youth groups and county officials, tailored to their identified needs</li> <li>4. Establish Technical Working Groups that bring together different youth actors within their specific counties, as a common platform of peer engagement and also coordination by the county authorities in charge of youth affairs.</li> <li>5. Provide technical support to all the counties in the development of youth-related policies/pieces of legislation</li> <li>6. Support County departments dealing with youth issues to develop a robust digital engagement policy and provide technical support in its implementation.</li> </ol>
Long-term (18 – 48 months)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Set-up community centered accountability mechanisms. Train youth in utilization of these mechanisms.</li> <li>2. Set-up safe and institutionalized spaces and train youth on utilizing them.</li> <li>3. Support the operationalization of the technical working groups in the six counties.</li> </ol>

Evaluation Criteria <https://www.oecd.org/dac/evaluation/daccriteriaforevaluatingdevelopmentassistance.htm> (accessed 17th January, 2023)

## **5.0 REFERENCES**

**Attorney General (2010), Constitution of Kenya, 2010**

**CRECO (2019), Model Framework for County Public Participation; Jihusishe – Lessons in participation in the county budget**

**Commission for Implementation of the Constitution (2012) Report of the Conference on Development of a Public Participation Framework**

**Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee (2020)**

**KNBS (2020), Population and Housing Census, 2019**

**Ministry of Devolution and Planning, Kenya: Draft Devolution Policy (2015)**

**Public Service Commission Guidelines for Public Participation in Policy Formulation**

**The County Government's Act (2012)**

# 6.0 ANNEXES

**These include the Terms of Reference, Research Licence, Data Collection Tools, and the Survey Work plan.**

## 6.1 Terms of Reference for the Baseline Survey

### 1.0 Introduction

#### 1.1 Contextual Analysis

On 27th August 2022, Kenya's constitution turned 12 years, since its promulgation. A cursory review shows a mixed bag of outcomes in the area of inclusive governance – with progress having been realized on some fronts while in other areas, the progress is either slow or outright stagnation. The youth factor in governance is of particular interest.

Kenya is one of the only countries in the world with a specific article to cater to young people. The Population and Housing Census (2019) revealed that 35.7 million Kenyans (75.1%) are below the age of 35 years. This is a huge demographic dividend that ought to both contribute to promotion of inclusive governance while also benefitting from the constitutional safeguards of the rights and freedoms allocated to the youth. However, this has not been the case, with varying patterns being seen in different counties.

The three key issues that have been seen to hinder meaningful youth engagement are;

- g) Lack of knowledge and limited information, ignorance or non-compliance to the frameworks for youth inclusion by state and non-state actors
- h) Lack of robust frameworks of engagement, within counties, through which youth can articulate their grievances
- i) Marginalization and stereotyping of youth by those in authority

The prevalence of the aforementioned factors has led to the following;

- a) Decrease in participation in critical civic matters, especially elections. According to the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) up to 39.8% of the 22 million registered voters (in 2022) were youth, marking a decline of 5.27% from the previous election.
- b) The shift to reliance on social media for news and information because of mistrust towards mainstream media.
- c) Increased corruption and mismanagement of public funds, mismatched priorities between government and communities, and lack of community ownership.
- d) Increased disillusionment amongst the youth as a result of failure to include their grievances in county because their priorities are not taken into consideration during key development decision making processes like development of County Integrated Development Plans (CIDP), Annual Development Plans (ADP) and implementation of these plans.
- e) Emerging youth voices, establishment of Youth Sounding Board to create alternative space where youth with tested and proven initiatives that are implementable in the grassroots offer realistic solutions to the issues that they face.

## 1.2 Overview of the Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices Project

The Strengthening the Power of Youth Voices (SPYV) project seeks to respond to some of the challenges and gaps highlighted in the preceding section. The project is a 4 year initiative targeting adolescents, young women and young men between 15 and 35 years old, through existing organized community-based groups. The project intends to work with County authorities (both the Executive and Assembly wings), especially the relevant departments responsible for public participation. The broad selection criteria of the counties is those with a trend of high/low resource allocations from the National Treasury, high youth population but low youth public participation and are urban/rural with diverse economic opportunities available. These counties are Lamu, Nairobi, Kitui, Homabay, Kericho, and Busia.

### Project Consortium

This project is being implemented by Siasa Place and Centre for Multiparty Democracy (CMD), with funding from the Embassy of Netherlands, in Kenya. Siasa Place is a youth NGO established in 2015, that aims to create an enabling environment for youth mainstreaming into our body politic. SP has remained focused and guided by its three pillars; people, policy formulation and public participation. The strategic plan of the organization is focused on meaningful youth engagement and involvement in civic processes, additionally utilizing digital platforms to share information through unconventional methods that target the majority populace. The Centre for Multiparty Democracy, CMD-Kenya is a political parties-based membership organization established in 2004. The mandate is to enhance multiparty democracy and strengthen the institutional capacity of political parties in Kenya through policy influence and capacity building. CMD's current strategic areas include support in enabling political governance and democracy driven policy environment and cooperation among key political and civic actors, which is critical in expanding civic and democratic space, achieving social justice, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms.



## Project Outcomes

There are four outcomes, as outlined below;

OUTCOME 1: Safe and institutionalized spaces for dialogue between youth and with all relevant governance institutions and political actors

OUTCOME 2: Youth are more aware of and have internalized democratic values, rule of law, gender sensitive & inclusive politics

OUTCOME 3: Youth civic actors that voice and monitor youth's interests at national and county levels

OUTCOME 4: Formal and informal youth groups/organizations have the capacity and legitimacy to influence government, business and societal actors in various areas of social and economic development

Each of these outcomes has different outputs/activities, outlining how the outcomes will be realized and measured.

### 1.3 Call-Out

With the above at play, the Project Consortium seeks a qualified and experienced consultant to conduct a baseline evaluation of the SPYV project, in the target counties towards understanding the current prevailing situation, giving insights in how best to design the intended interventions, and strengthening the project's results framework.

## 2.0 Purpose, Objectives and Scope of the Assignment

The purpose of the consultancy is to establish comprehensive baseline information on the state of youth voices and the levels of youth engagement in governance issues in the 6 target counties. The generated information will be critical in keeping track of the progress made during the life of the project in the next 4 years. Additionally, this consultancy will provide an insight into the existing capacity gaps amongst the youth and the county systems they operate in, therefore guide the project team in tailor-making interventions for each county.

The overall objective of the consultancy is to establish baseline data, guided by the indicators in the log-frame, as the basis for designing interventions and evaluating the outcomes amongst the target institutions and individuals.

The specific objectives of the consultancy are to:

- d) Generate baseline data that will identify and set benchmarks against which progress will be measured during both the mid-term and end-term evaluations. The data should cover the four Key Outcome Areas, and the specific activities under each of them as outlined in the proposal and log-frame.
- e) Conduct an assessment of the current state of frameworks in place by counties that facilitate or constrain inclusive and meaningful youth engagement in governance processes.
- f) Evaluate the draft Logical Framework and make a commentary on the appropriateness of the listed indicators. This will guide the implementing organizations in development of the monitoring and evaluation framework/plan for the project.

The Scope of Work under this consultancy includes the following;

- i. Review the SPYV – Project proposal and log-frame, to deepen understanding of the intended interventions and suggest possible adjustments, if at all.
- ii. Conduct an extensive review of all relevant literature (secondary data) related to youth and governance in the six target counties specifically, and Kenya generally.
- iii. Develop an Inception Report with a clear methodology and data collection tools.

## 3.0 Deliverables

These include the following:

- e) An Inception Report, outlining the consultant's methodological approach to this assignment, and a proposed work-plan.
- f) A set of comprehensive data collection tools that will be used to generate the baseline data. These tools ought to capture both qualitative and quantitative data, as per the indicators in the log-frame.
- g) Final baseline survey report, which shall follow a draft submitted for approval to the project team.
- h) A commentary on the log-frame on the appropriateness of the indicators, with suggestions on adjustments on some indicators, if at all.

The draft report that will emanate from this exercise shall be submitted in soft copy, to the Contracting Agency for review, within two weeks of completing the field work phase. Further, the consultant will submit the final report, within one week after receiving feedback from the Project Consortium Members. Approval of the final report shall be done by the Executive Director, Siasa Place.

## 4.0 Proposed Methodology

It is recommended that the successful candidate shall ensure the consultancy is conducted in a consultative and participatory manner that is both complexity-aware and context-sensitive (the uniqueness of the 6 target counties).

The consultant should consider the use of a Mixed Methods Approach through primary and secondary data collection methods, which will yield both qualitative and quantitative data.

The data collection tools ought to be designed in a manner that corresponds to the sourcing for data for all the indicators in the project log-frame. The collected data will have to be collated, analysed and interpreted in a coherent and systematic manner, using detailed data/information analysis method(s).

## 5.0 Time-frame

This consultancy will take approximately 35 days, based on a reasonable 'Level of Effort' estimation. These days will be spread from November to December, 2022. The consultant is expected to share a work-plan that indicates how these days will fit into the three phases of the consultancy; Inception, Fieldwork and Post-Fieldwork phases. The proposed plan will be reviewed by the project team in consultation with the consultant, before roll-out.

The consultant will be expected to be in the field (6 counties) for about 20 days during the Fieldwork Phase. Other days will be spent away from the field in accordance with the proposed plan.

## 6.0 Profile of the Consultant

There are mandatory and desirable competencies of this; Mandatory;

- A master's degree and above (preferably in public policy, monitoring and evaluation, project management, political science or in a related field) from a recognized university.
- Solid experience in mixed methods research including designing and conducting baseline surveys in youth and governance programmes.
- Extensive experience working in the youth governance sector, especially in capacity enhancement and advocacy programmes. Knowledge of and experience in working in the six target counties will be an added advantage.
- Knowledge and understanding of devolution and county government systems in Kenya.
- Proficiency in report writing skills in English language. Desirable:
- Experience of working in different counties in Kenya.
- Familiarity with donor funded programmes in governance.

## 7.0 Management of the Consultancy

The Programme Manager, Siasa Place shall be directly involved in the supervision and management of the consultant during the period of engagement. During the fieldwork phase, the consultant shall work with designated county coordinators of the project consortium members to ensure meaningful engagement with the stakeholders and successful collection of data from the sampled institutions and individuals.

## 8.0 Terms and Conditions of Engagement

These include the following;

- The Contracting Agency (Siasa Place) will provide the consultant with the required information and support in setting up interviews with the identified respondents in the field.
- The Contracting Agency commits to provide 'Duty of Care' to the consultant during the Field/Data Collection Phase of the work in line with Siasa Place's policies and guidelines.
- Upon contracting, the consultant shall be responsible for settling his/her taxes, apart from the statutory deductions that will be effected by Siasa Place, as a result of engagement in this assignment.
- As part of the contracting process the consultants shall be expected to abide by all the policies of Siasa Place and CMD, inter alia, Child Protection, and Sexual Abuse.

## 9.0 Application Procedure

Interested applicants should send their applications addressed to the Programme Manager, Siasa Place, by Close of Business on Wednesday 2nd November, 2022 via [info@siasaplace.com](mailto:info@siasaplace.com)

Applications should include the following documents:

- a) Cover letter (max 1 page) outlining your suitability for this assignment
- b) Technical proposal (max. 8 pages). The technical proposal must outline the following;
  - The consultants' understanding of the TORs
  - Proposed methodology
  - Proposed work-plan
  - Consultant's relevant experience in previous related assignments
- c) Financial Proposal (max. 2 page) outlining in Kenya Shillings, the consultant's proposed cost for undertaking the baseline survey. This should include both the professional and logistical costs.
- d) Attach a SAMPLE of a baseline survey report that you have conducted in the recent past.

Use 'Job No. 0001/2022 – Baseline Survey for the SPYV Project' as the title of your email.

Task	December, 2022				January, 2023			
	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4
Inception activities – Finalization of data collection tools, scheduling of appointments								
Fieldwork phase – Data collection in the 6 counties								
Data analysis, and preparation of Draft Report								
Submission of draft report to Siasa Place for review								
Incorporation of feedback from Siasa Place/ CMD-Kenya and finalization of report								



