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ARIVE

NEWSLETTER



***Building Resilience Together: In-Depth Look at Our
Recent Initiatives. CAP Reflection and Design of
23/24***

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SUCCESSFUL LAMU COUNTY ENGAGEMENT FORUM UNVEILS ROBUST ACTION PLAN FOR 2023/24



outcomes of a 2-day Lamu County Engagement Forum organized under the ARIVE Program, a collaborative initiative between Kiunga Youth Bunge Initiative and Act Change Transform. This transformative event, generously funded by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF), brought together key stakeholders, including the National Counter-Terrorism Center (NCTC), Administration, Lamu County Government, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and Security Actors.

The primary objective of the forum was to remodel the Lamu County Action Plan, paving the way for a resilient and inclusive future. The collective brainstorming, fusion of expertise, and community collaboration witnessed during these two days underscored the power of unity in addressing the unique needs of our beloved Lamu County.

Diverse Stakeholder

Participation:

The forum facilitated an inclusive space where representatives from NCTC, Administration, Lamu County Government, CSOs, and Security Actors actively engaged in discussions. This diversity of perspectives enriched the dialogue and ensured a holistic approach to the action planning process.

Robust Action Plan Unveiled:

The outcome of these discussions is a meticulously crafted Lamu County Action Plan for 2023/24. This comprehensive plan is designed to address the specific needs of our community, reflecting the insights and shared expertise of all stakeholders present.

Inclusive Workshop Experience:

A comprehensive two-day workshop was hosted to develop the Lamu County Action Plan implementation matrix. Rigorous planning and reflections on past implementations were key components, ensuring an adaptive and responsive approach to evolving Violent Extremism (VE) trends.



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STRATEGIC OUTCOME:

The result is an adaptable, detailed implementation matrix that not only guides our teams but also aligns seamlessly with the overarching goals of the ARIVE program. This strategic outcome ensures that our collective efforts are directed towards building a resilient future for Lamu County.

FOCUS ON INCLUSIVITY:

- A notable highlight of the forum was the emphasis on incorporating youth and women's perspectives in the planning process. This deliberate inclusion guarantees that the strategies formulated resonate with and effectively support these vital segments of our community.



As we move forward, our commitment remains steadfast in cascading these activities down to the grassroots level. The goal is to ensure that the benefits of our collective efforts reach every corner of our community. The CAP Reflection and Design, along with the 23/24 CAP Implementation Matrix, will serve as guiding documents for the upcoming year.



LAMU COUNTY SECRETARIAT COLLABORATION: ENHANCING THE LAMU COUNTY ACTION PLAN

positive outcomes of our collaboration with Act Change Transform under the ARIVE Program, generously funded by the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund. In a joint effort, the Kiunga Youth Bunge Initiative recently convened the Lamu County Secretariat on the Community Engagement Forum (CEF) to further refine and strengthen the Lamu County Action Plan (LCAP).



- **Refinement of Recommendations:** The collaborative session with the Lamu County Secretariat was a pivotal moment in refining the recommendations proposed by the Community Engagement Forum. The focus was specifically on the remodeling of the LCAP to ensure it addresses the evolving needs of our community effectively.
- **Engagement with Dedicated Stakeholders:** A key aspect of this session was the active engagement with dedicated stakeholders who have a vested interest in the well-being of Lamu County. Their valuable insights were not only heard but were integral to the process of refining our commitment to the community we serve.
- **Commitment to Community Service:** The heart of our discussions revolved around our unwavering commitment to the community. Every recommendation, adjustment, and strategy discussed during the session was centered on making a tangible and positive difference in the lives of our fellow Lamu County residents.
- **Cascading Activities to the Grassroots Level:** One of our primary objectives is to actively involve stakeholders who will play a vital role in cascading the planned activities to the grassroots level. This ensures that the benefits and impact of our initiatives reach every corner of our community, leaving no one untouched by positive change.



The refined Lamu County Action Plan serves as a blueprint for impactful community engagement. The commitment to inclusivity, collaboration, and responsiveness to community needs will guide our actions in the upcoming phases of the ARIVE Program.

We extend our gratitude to the Lamu County Secretariat and all stakeholders for their dedication and meaningful contributions during this collaborative session. Together, we are building a stronger, more resilient Lamu County.



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PSYCHO-SOCIAL PILLAR SUCCESSFUL SOCCER SESSION PROMOTES UNITY AND HEALING



A soccer session organized by Mr. Famau from Psycho-social Pillar, in collaboration with the Media Pillar. The event, held at Mala Ground, aimed to create an environment of positivity, understanding, and healing for the youth in our community.

Connecting Through Soccer and Conversations:

The highlight of the event was the platform provided for young minds to engage in peer-to-peer conversations. These discussions revolved around sensitive topics such as violent extremism, mental health issues, drug abuse, and the unfortunate spiral into criminal activities. By encouraging open dialogue, the goal was to remove the stigma surrounding these issues and offer support to those who need it.

Unity in Action:

Through the power of soccer, our youth found a positive outlet to channel their energy. Engaging in the game not only provided them with enjoyment but also imparted crucial lessons on teamwork, discipline, and respect. Importantly, it helped them steer clear of idle time, which often leads to negative influences.

The success of this soccer session reinforces the idea that sports can play a pivotal role in promoting physical, mental, and social well-being among our youth. By combining the joy of soccer with meaningful conversations, this collaboration continues to make a significant impact in our community.



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A SAFE SPACE TO TALK AND HEAL:

The conversations facilitated during the soccer session served as a safe space for our youth to express their thoughts and feelings. Addressing their concerns directly not only fosters a sense of belonging but also promotes understanding within our community. This initiative aligns with Lamu Women Alliance's commitment to holistic well-being.





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CEF 'MASHINANI' INITIATIVE EMPOWERS YOUTH AND WOMEN IN NGOI, TEWE, WITU, AND MAISHA MASHA



Empowerment Foundation (CEF) 'Mashinani' engagement held in Ngoi, Tewe, Witu, and Maisha Masha. This grassroots initiative, aimed at deepening community connections for sustainable change, was conducted in collaboration with our dedicated team.

Grassroots Approach:

The 'Mashinani' initiative took our team to the heart of local communities, particularly those identified as violent extremism (VE) hotspots. Through interactive sessions, we directly engaged with the youth, women, and marginalized groups. This grassroots approach allowed us to gain valuable insights into the unique challenges and aspirations of each community.

Dialogue and Co-Design:



Our engagement went beyond mere discussions; it evolved into collaborative platforms where community members actively participated in co-designing initiatives for preventing violent extremism (PVE). This inclusive approach ensured that the solutions developed were tailored to the specific needs and contexts of each community. By empowering the residents to be part of the decision-making process, we fostered a sense of agency and ownership.



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IMPACTFUL OUTCOMES:



The outcomes of the 'Mashinani' initiative were profound. Beyond identifying key issues related to violent extremism, the sessions played a crucial role in building trust and strengthening community resilience. Participants not only gained a deeper understanding of the challenges they face but also developed a sense of ownership in finding and implementing solutions. This empowerment is a crucial step towards creating sustainable change from within.

The success of this initiative is a testament to the power of community-led efforts and the importance of involving the grassroots in shaping strategies for positive transformation. We believe that by building strong community connections, we are laying the foundation for lasting change.

We extend our gratitude to CEF for their partnership and to the communities of Ngoi, Tewe, Witu, and Maisha Masha for their active participation and commitment to building a safer and more resilient future. Together, we are making strides towards sustainable and community-driven change.



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Act!
act
change
transform



EMPOWERING YOUTH LEADERS: MPEKETONI TVET PVE CLUBS EMBARK ON ADVOCACY JOURNEY

transformative impact of our recent Leadership and Advocacy Sensitization for Mpeketoni TVET PVE Clubs. This initiative focused on empowering youth as change-makers by providing essential skills and tools for effective leadership and advocacy.

SKILL-BUILDING WORKSHOPS:

Our training sessions were designed to equip TVET peace club members and PVE champions with crucial leadership and advocacy skills. Through interactive exercises, participants engaged in activities that honed their abilities in effective communication, consensus building, and mobilizing support. These workshops served as a platform for skill development, fostering an environment where young leaders could enhance their capabilities.





DEVELOPMENT OF ADVOCACY PLANS:

A key aspect of the sensitization program involved guiding participants in the creation of actionable advocacy plans. These plans were specifically tailored to address and combat PVE challenges prevalent in their communities. The emphasis was placed on ensuring that the plans resonated with the unique needs of the local population, thereby increasing the likelihood of successful implementation.

LONG-TERM IMPACT:

The impact of the training is already evident as it has sparked the initiation of youth-led advocacy efforts. The participants, now equipped with enhanced leadership and advocacy skills, are taking proactive steps towards addressing PVE challenges in their communities. This marks a significant stride towards sustainable community-led PVE efforts, as the youth emerge as active contributors to positive change.

The success of this initiative is a testament to the potential of young leaders when provided with the right tools and guidance. By investing in the development of youth-led advocacy, we are cultivating a generation of change-makers who are actively shaping the narrative and contributing to the betterment of their communities.

We extend our gratitude to all the participants for their enthusiasm and commitment to the cause. This endeavor would not have been possible without their dedication and the support of [Your Organization]. Together, we are fostering a community where empowered youth play a pivotal role in promoting peace and preventing violent extremism.



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Lamu County Youth Policy: A Blueprint Shaped by Youth Voices

We are delighted to share the significant strides made in shaping the Lamu County Youth Policy, an initiative aimed at amplifying the voices and addressing the needs of the youth in our community. Through a series of engaging public participation workshops, we have successfully laid the groundwork for a policy that truly echoes the aspirations of Lamu County's youth.

Engaging Public Participation:

The heart of this initiative lies in the five inclusive public participation workshops conducted. These sessions served as vital platforms for rich dialogue, bringing together diverse voices ranging from local youth to policy makers. The workshops were designed to be inclusive, ensuring that every participant had an opportunity to contribute their unique insights and perspectives.



Policy Development Process:

Facilitating discussions on the key components of the policy was central to our approach. We delved into critical areas such as education, employment, and access to opportunities for youth. The interactive nature of these sessions allowed for a comprehensive exploration of the issues at hand, ensuring that the policy development process was well-informed and representative.





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TOWARDS A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY:

The culmination of the public participation workshops resulted in the formation of a draft policy. This draft is a testament to the genuine reflection of the aspirations and needs expressed by the youth in Lamu County. To ensure the final policy was comprehensive and truly representative, a subsequent two-day validation workshop was conducted. This workshop provided a space for further refinement, incorporating feedback from various stakeholders.

The Lamu County Youth Policy stands as a collaborative effort that embodies the spirit of our community. It is a testament to the power of inclusive decision-making processes and the importance of incorporating diverse perspectives to create policies that truly serve the needs of the people.

We extend our gratitude to all the participants, from the local youth to our dedicated policy makers, for their active engagement and commitment throughout this process. This achievement would not have been possible without the collective effort of all involved.

Thank you for your ongoing support as we continue to work towards a Lamu County where the aspirations of our youth are at the forefront of policy development.



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