



ANNUAL REPORT

2023

This report contains all activities carried out by the organization in 2023



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ABOUT US

Established in 2009 Pamoja for Transformation is a National Non-Government Organization (NGO) registered in Kenya as a Trust. The organization envisions a Peaceful, just and prosperous society. We work amongst conflict affected communities in Kenya, We especially work with conflicted communities, supporting them to transit from crisis and poverty to peace and development. Pamoja seeks to contribute to transform structural and latent conflicts that commonly arise from weak governance systems, historical injustices, economic and political processes, exclusive and ethno-political as well as social-cultural contexts that undermine human dignity.

We work at the national sub-national and community levels supporting community-based initiatives that strengthen resilience against violence and promote economic opportunities for employment while conserving and restoring the ecosystem. our work mainly empowers disadvantaged groups such as women and youth; Refugees, pastoralists, informal settlement and rural communities.

The organisation operates at the nexus of security, peace and development, and works with civil society, donor agencies, private sector and state institutions to address the drivers of poverty and economic imbalances. We apply an integrated approach to development that combines peace building, participatory governance, formal education and economic development strategies to attain sustainable change.

Geographical Coverage: Nairobi, Nakuru, Turkana, Kisumu, Migori, Bungoma, Siaya, Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Tanariver, Homabay, Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Kajiado



OUR VISION

A peaceful, just and prosperous society

MISSION

To support communities affected by conflict and its effects to move from crisis and poverty to peace and development.

OUR PHILOSOPHY

1. Partnering for impact: We embrace diversity in supporting systematic change to foster sustainable solutions for overcoming poverty and violence.
2. Community-led change: We invest in and strengthen local community systems and structures through participatory methods for ownership and home-grown solutions.
3. Integrated programming: We promote holistic approaches by linking peace and development to skills and enterprise, policy and governance as well as climate change and environmental sustainability for improved livelihoods.



HIGHLIGHTS



134 Upskillers

Were taken through business, finance management and entrepreneurship coaching and mentorship to assess business process and how they apply improved business practices.



155 Trainees

successfully completed the Solar Photovoltaic Installer II training , Sponsored: 150 (Project), 5 (Govt.)



Fish feeds milling machine

The Procured fish feeds milling machine was successful delivered to Kabondo West SAG Group and installed in Kadongo, Homabay County.



Petition to the Government to end Sondu clashes

The Kisumu Peace Actors' Forum successfully developed and submitted a petition to address the ongoing conflicts in Sondu.

STRATEGIC PROGRAM AREAS

SKILLS AND ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT

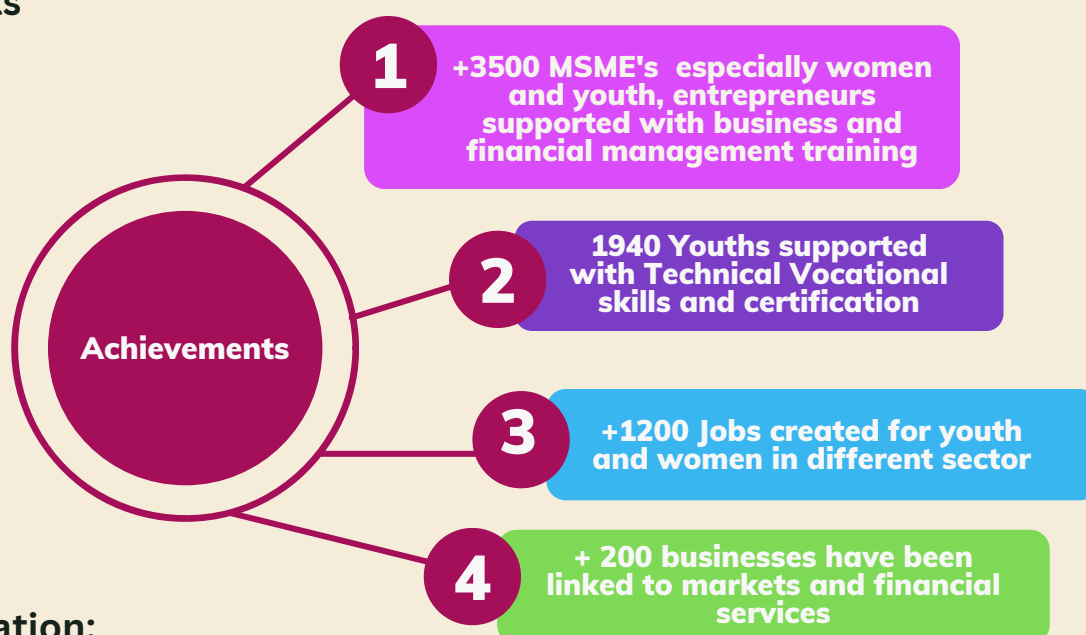


The program seeks to enhance the economic productivity of disadvantaged women and youth led MSME's by facilitating skills development, wealth creation for resilience and adaptation. We provide technical skills, entrepreneurship knowledge, market and financial linkages to strengthen their capacities to increase income, create employment and support livelihoods through technical vocational education and entrepreneurship training for disadvantaged women. The program aims at creating economic independence to sustain market and financial access reduced economic vulnerability and promotes responsiveness and resilience at individual and societal levels.

Program Aim

We support the disadvantaged and marginalized women and youth with technical and vocational skills, knowledge, and capital, financial linkages and networks to grow their enterprises and improve their productivity, employability and wealth creation for sustainable livelihoods. The program provides tools and approaches for increasing income.

Achievements



Program Location:

Nairobi, Nakuru, Turkana, Kisumu, Migori, Bungoma, Vihiga, Kakamega, Siaya, Mombasa, Kilifi, Kwale, Tanariver, Homabay, Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Kajiado

PROJECT NAME: SKILLS FOR JOBS (S4J)

Key Facts:

Counties: Kisumu, Siaya, and Bungoma

Period: October 2021 - June 2023

Donors: European Union (EU), the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA)

Partner: GIZ

Status: Completed.

Project Context and Background

The project was implemented in collaboration with TVET institutions, the private sector, the County Government of Kisumu, and the local industry players in Kisumu, Siaya, and Bungoma Counties. The project targeted a total of 1,940 people, of whom 35% (679) were women and 40% (776) were youth from vulnerable backgrounds. 1,940 of the target beneficiaries were expected to participate in three months of practical classroom training followed by three months of industrial attachment or internship and matching to jobs. Out of the 1,940, 200 beneficiaries who informally acquired skills and were already working in the informal (Jua Kali) sector and required both reskilling with technical knowledge and equipping with soft and business skills training. They would also be issued with business tool kits to expand their enterprises.

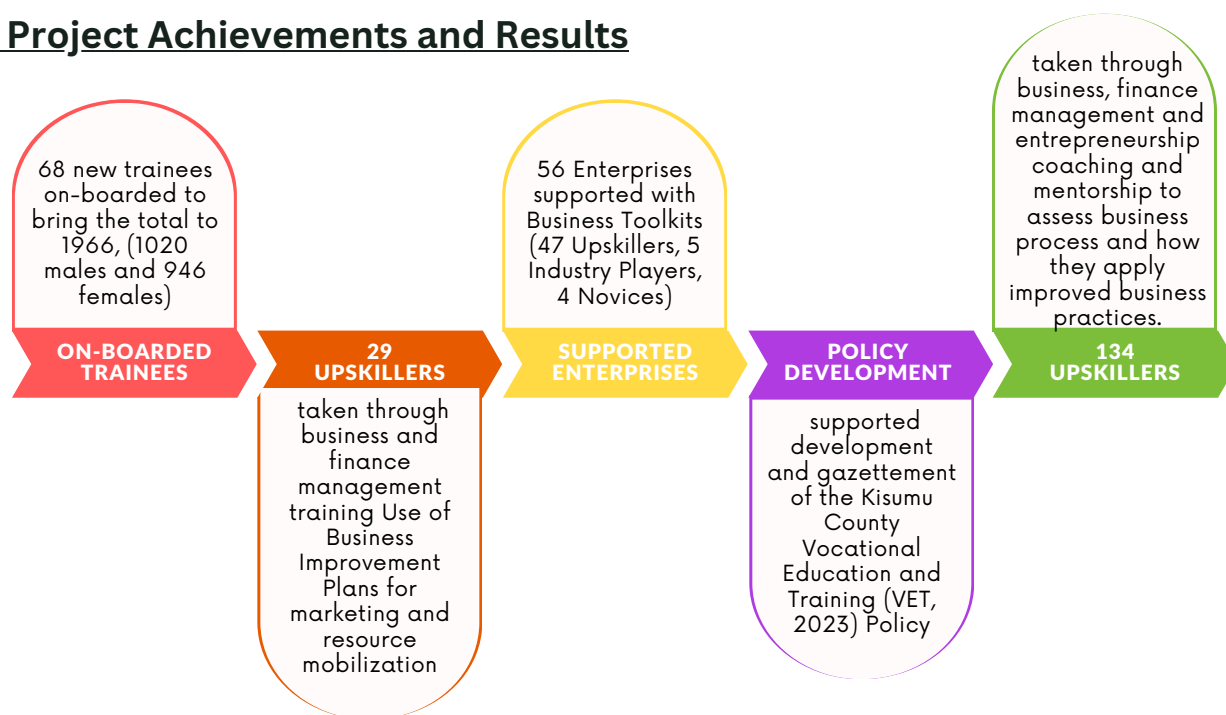
Various activities were implemented during the reporting period to target trainees at three levels (novices[1], continuing[2], and up-skillers[3]). They include, among others, trainee on-boarding and orientation, modularized 3-month training, skill matching through job placements to related industries and trainee assessment, sector skills round table forums and engagement meetings to secure opportunities for placement, business entrepreneurship skills training and coaching, soft skills training for up-skillers, TOT training on work readiness and soft skills for instructors, and Kisumu County Government Vocational Education and Training (VET) Policy and the Kisumu County Vocational Education and Training Bill (2022), and the issuance of business toolkits to the up-skiller trainees to improve their business capital.



Project Aim

The goal of the project is to improve employment and economic opportunities for marginalized and vulnerable youth in Kisumu, Siaya and Bungoma counties through cooperation with the public and private sectors.

Project Achievements and Results



Success story 1:



Nelly Atieno Kiboga is a beneficiary of the skills for jobs project, born and raised in Akado within Kisumu County. Through this program Nelly has been able to sit for the NITA exam Grade 3. She demonstrated a lot of potential in her and was retained by her institution just to mentor her as she is was a very good example. She enrolled for electrical engineering, a course previously perceived even by male students as very difficult. The institution she enrolled in supported her to continue with her education so that she could come back to be one of their trainers. Nelly can serve as a good model to tell other girls that they can join the male dominated courses as she did where she is doing better than her male counterparts. So, she can be an encouragement to other girls to take up even motor vehicle mechanics as careers.

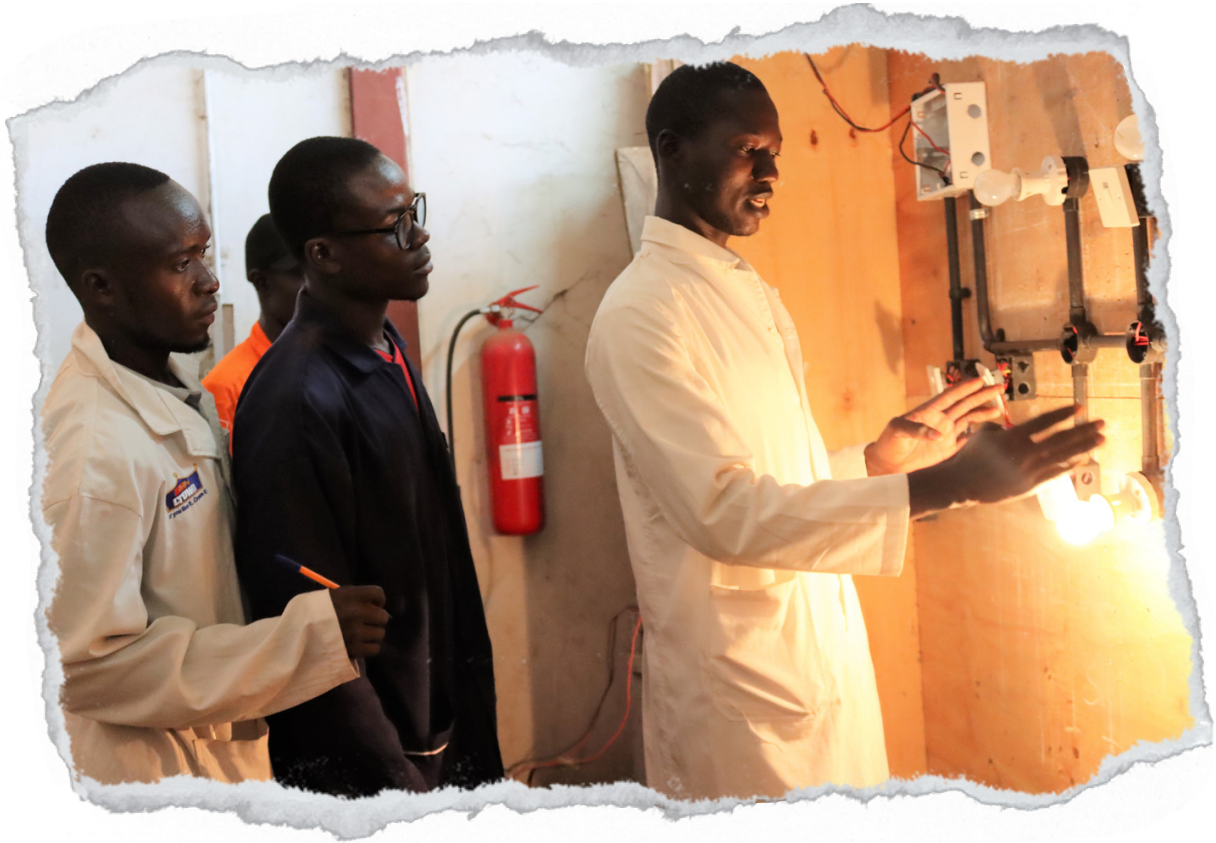
Success story 2:



Brian Tete is a beautician who completed the 3 months class work and 3 months internship. He is currently employed as a nail technician at a local Beauty Salon called Mwajuma Place, in Kisumu. From the work, Brian is able to earn up to about Kshs. 2,000 per day on commissions from work done. For an occupation that has no off days, Brian is able to make upwards of about Kshs. 25,000 per month. He is now able to support his single mum in finishing up construction of their house. Although he still considers himself to be learning on the job, he has the confidence of starting his own beauty salon in future.

Lessons Learnt

1. Collaborative partnerships through joint reflections, training sessions and round table forums of the different stakeholders, allowed for open levels of interactions, learning and building of relationships for the success of the project and build successes beyond the project implementation period. These partnerships and established networks guarantee the confidence of industry players to absorb more trainees to the industry in future.



2. The integration of business management and entrepreneurship training, coaching, mentorship, and toolkit support into the technical training promoted sustainable and resilient enterprises capable to thrive in a competitive business and market economy.
3. Development of TVET policy: The enactment of Kisumu TVET policy provided a framework for the establishment of systems for the administration, management, and governance of vocational education and training within Kisumu County provided and training and employability of TVET graduates through long term public private partnership.

PROJECT NAME: BUILDING THE RESILIENCE OF SMALL SIZED AQUACULTURE ENTERPRISES THROUGH ENTREPRENEURIAL, FINANCIAL AND BUSINESS MANAGEMENT TRAINING (KABONDO WEST SAG GROUP).

Key Facts:

County: Kadongo in Homabay County

Period: October 2021 to Dec 2022

Partners: County Government of Homabay, Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP)

Status: Completed.

Project Context and Background

In partnership and collaboration with Kabondo West SAG and the Aquaculture Business Development Programme (ABDP), the project was carried out in Kadongo, Homabay County. with the aim of strengthening the resilience of small-scale aquaculture farmers by providing them with specialised training in business, finance, and entrepreneurship. The project offered the farmers the knowledge and skills they needed to run and manage their business enterprises efficiently, deal with barriers in the aquaculture sector, and develop strategies to minimise post-harvest losses.

In order to boost the group's resilience and increase their sustainability, the project adopted a holistic approach to capacity building and support, focusing on key competencies including entrepreneurship, business management, marketing, and post-harvest management. The project included coaching and mentorship sessions in addition to training. This individualised support was very important in helping the farmers overcome the specific challenges they faced.



Project Aim

To create sustainable enterprises by enhancing entrepreneurial, business and financial management competencies. The project will enhance the creation and retention of jobs, increase employment and improve the income and livelihoods of women and youth in the target group.

Project Achievements and Results

- 2 full-time jobs created managing 14 ponds operations and maintenance. 8 part-time jobs created engaged in maintenance and renovation of ponds as well as day to day management of the ponds.
- Procurement and installation of a fish feeds milling machine to enable production of high-quality fish feeds locally, reducing the groups dependency on expensive commercial feeds and ultimately lowering the overall operational costs of their aquaculture project.
- Increased revenues for individual small scale fish farmers from improved, post-harvest management and marketing strategies.

Project Photos



In the vibrant tapestry of African traditions, knowledge was once exchanged around the warmth of a communal fireplace. Fast forward to today, in Kadongo, Homabay County, an entrepreneurship training for an aquaculture group is rewriting this narrative. Under the expansive branches of an ancient mango tree, skills and knowledge are now being passed down, forging a new legacy of growth and success for the aquaculture community. The old mango tree has become the living symbol of continuity, connecting generations through the art of shared wisdom and entrepreneurial spirit.



In the heart of Homabay County, Aquaculture farmers from Kabondo West SAG embarked on Coaching and mentorship, a transformative journey. Focused on group dynamics, cohesion, and decision-making, the coaching sessions also targeted market linkages and marketing strategies. Individual farmers received personalized guidance on reducing production costs, efficient post-production management, and effective marketing. The ongoing coaching is not just a session; it's a success story in the making, promising a united and thriving community of aquaculture farmers in Kadongo, Homabay County.



CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND ADAPTATION



Program Aim

The programme is premised on an intergrated approach that promotes circular economy in developing capacities of women and youth led SME's but also invest in technological innovations that contribute to climate resilience. The program operates at the nexus between policy and action for resilience building and innovation within the green and blue economy value chains. Further, the program focuses on renewable energy sub-sector in order to foster economic growth, enhance access, affordability, availability towards food security and job opportunities while conserving the natural ecosystem.

The program acknowledges that depletion of the natural ecosystem and the climatic changes not only affect the human livelihoods, but also breeds conflict arising from unsustainable utilization of the environment and it's attendant resources. Thus, scarcity of natural resources worsens environmental conditions and increases livelihood threats by causing stiffer competition over land, pasture, water, fish, minerals and forest resources.

1860 MSME's provided with technical & business skills in Aquaculture

105 Farmers trained on syntrophic farming

5 Syntrophic model sites Developed

ACHIEVEMENTS

Additional 40 new jobs have been created within the blue and green economy value chains through capacity development and upskilling

100 small holder farmers have adopted climate smart technology within green and blue economy value chains

65 enterprises have been linked to financial and market providers.

11 Mariculture model sites

Program Location:

Nairobi, Nakuru, Turkana, Kisumu, Migori, Bungoma, Vihiga, Kakamega, Siaya, Mombasa Kilifi, Kwale, Tanariver, Homabay, Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Kajiado

PROJECT NAME: CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT IN RENEWABLE ENERGY THROUGH TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

Key Facts;

County: Nairobi County

Period: January 2023 – July 2023

Donor/Partner: GIZ, WTS Energy, NITA

Status: Completed.

Project Context and Background

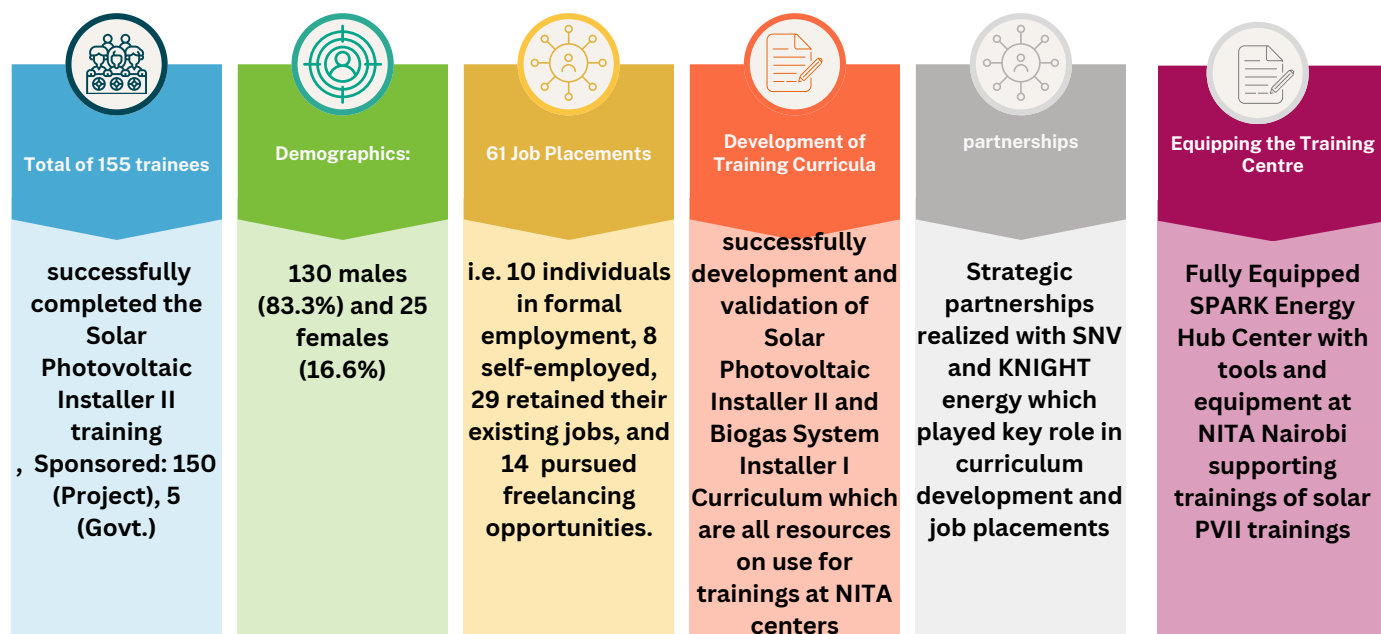
The project was implemented in a tripartite partnership involving GIZ-E4D-Pamoja for Transformation, WTS Energy and NITA-Nairobi. It was designed to equip 150 youth aged 18 to 24 with demand-led technical skills in the renewable energy sector so as to improve employment and economic opportunities for the youth through cooperation with the public and private sectors; thereof 35% (42) women and 40% (48) youth. The project targeted the 120 trainees from two sets of categories; 50 novices with no prior training in renewable energy and 70 up-skillers with prior skills and knowledge in other economic sectors. The technical trainings took place at the NITA- Nairobi centre. The project targeted to facilitate the linkage of trained young people to jobs through a partnership with the private sector where 50% (60) of the 120 trained young people were expected to be linked to employment opportunities through direct formal jobs, thereof 35 % (21) of the jobs being women and 40 % (24) of the jobs being for youth.

Project Aim

The goal of the project is to improve employment and economic opportunities for the youth and women through cooperation with the public and private sectors by supporting young Kenyans aged between 18 to 24 years to access job opportunities in the renewable energy sector.



Project Achievements and Results



Success story 1:



Leah Wairimu, a 33-year-old woman married with two children, embarked on her journey into the solar energy sector two years ago while working as a sales agent for Sunking. Specializing in customized solar solutions, Leah encountered a variety of client needs which prompted her to conduct research, establish online collaborations, and gain practical experience, leading her to identify a market opportunity. Motivated by this realization, Leah made the decision to establish her own proficient solar installation company. Despite facing challenges in pursuing formal education, Leah's determination paid off when she discovered a solar scholarship offered by Pamoja for Transformation during a commute. Following a successful application and interview, Leah underwent transformative training at NITA Nairobi, guided by respected trainers from NITA and WTS. This training significantly boosted Leah's confidence and improved her ability to offer insightful advice on solar system sizing. The expertise gained translated into increased income through referrals. Expressing gratitude for the support received from Pamoja for Transformation, WTS Energy, GIZ, and the NITA community, Leah advocates for the continuation of such training initiatives to empower others and address unemployment challenges.

Success story 2:



Isaac Wambua Elijah is truly inspired by the dedication of Pamoja for Transformation and WTS Energy in fostering talent and empowering individuals like himself. Their investment in his education and professional development has changed his life and demonstrated their belief in his potential. With this life-changing opportunity, he pledges to utilize his acquired knowledge and skills to promote clean energy practices and drive sustainable change. Isaac is confident in contributing significantly to a greener future and expresses heartfelt thanks to Pamoja for Transformation and WTS Energy for their support. He eagerly anticipates embarking on this new chapter, armed with the tools and knowledge to create a lasting impact in the renewable energy sector while strengthening his resolve to uplift others in need.

Lessons Learnt

1. Ratification and continuous monitoring of MoUs for private sector partnership centred projects necessitates enhanced synergy and collaboration. This proactive approach ensures that both parties adhere to agreed-upon terms, enhancing the overall success and sustainability of the collaboration.
2. Quality trainings, among other factors are premised upon the design of curriculum designed and the style of execution.
3. The project realised low uptake of female trainees resulting from lack of gravitation towards STEM (science, Technology, Engineering and mathematics) courses by the female gender.
4. Institutions of higher learning lack solar units in their course contents, leading to a shortage of hands-on solar experts. Addressing this gap is crucial to create momentum in the solar sub-sector and meet the growing demand for skilled professionals in the renewable energy industry.
5. Having trainees of the same level clustered under one cohort enhances synergy and cohesion thus guaranteeing efficiency.

PROJECT NAME: PAMOJA'S YOUTH AGRI-BIZ AWARDS AND EXPO

Key Facts;

County: Nairobi County

Period: January 2023 – July 2023

Partner: The State Department for Youth Affairs, Plan International, E4impact, Jamsar, Afarmers Media, Wise, KSG(Kenya School of Government)

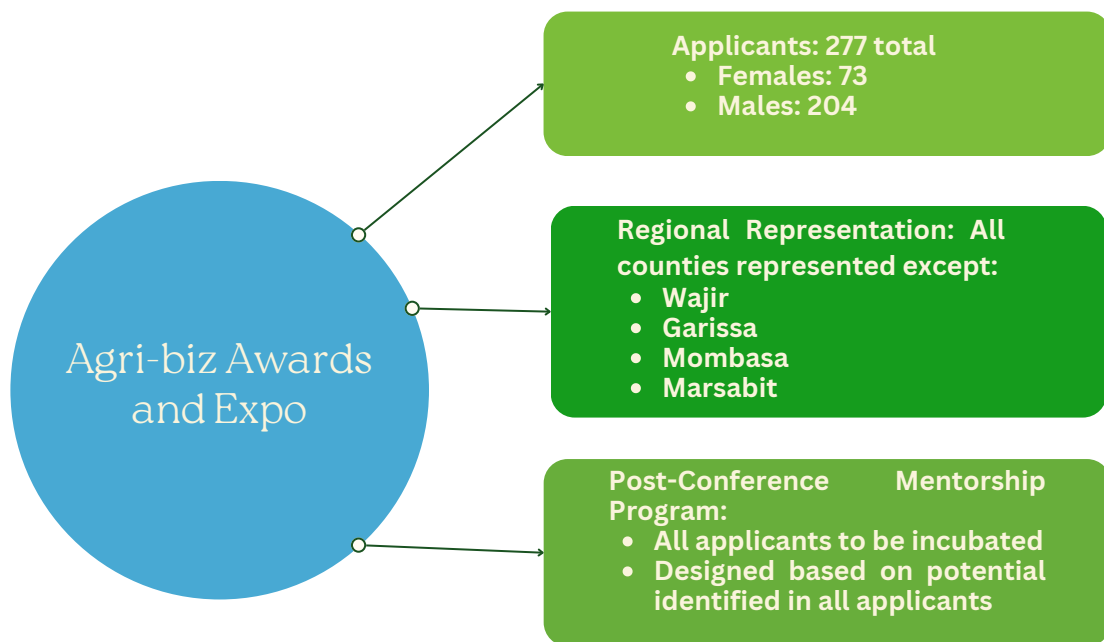
Project Context and Background

The Pamoja's Youth Agri-Biz Awards, themed "Climate Smart Pathways for Youth Employment in Agriculture," responds to the urgent need to address the detrimental impacts of climate change on agriculture, notably prolonged droughts threatening Kenya's food security and economic stability. With Kenya's youthful population comprising 29% of the total populace and a growing workforce, concerted efforts are essential to expand the economy sustainably to accommodate this demographic surge. Agriculture, accounting for 40% of the national GDP, holds paramount importance, and any polarization within the sector poses significant risks to the economy, job market, and food security.



This report encapsulates the comprehensive efforts and achievements of the Pamoja's Youth Agri-Biz Awards, emphasizing the pivotal role of youth in mitigating the historical insensitivity of agricultural practices to climate change. The awards focus on promoting climate-smart agriculture, recognizing its potential to not only enhance resilience but also improve livelihoods sustainably. By targeting youths across five categories and fostering innovation and adoption of sustainable agricultural technologies, the project aims to establish enduring pathways for youth employment in the sector.

The report delineates the project's four-pronged approach, including Identification, Capacity Building, Graduation, and Replication, with a particular focus on the first two stages. Through meticulous processes of longlisting, shortlisting, and adjudication, the project identified 12 finalists across various categories, paving the way for subsequent mentorship and support.



Achievements

Long listing Process

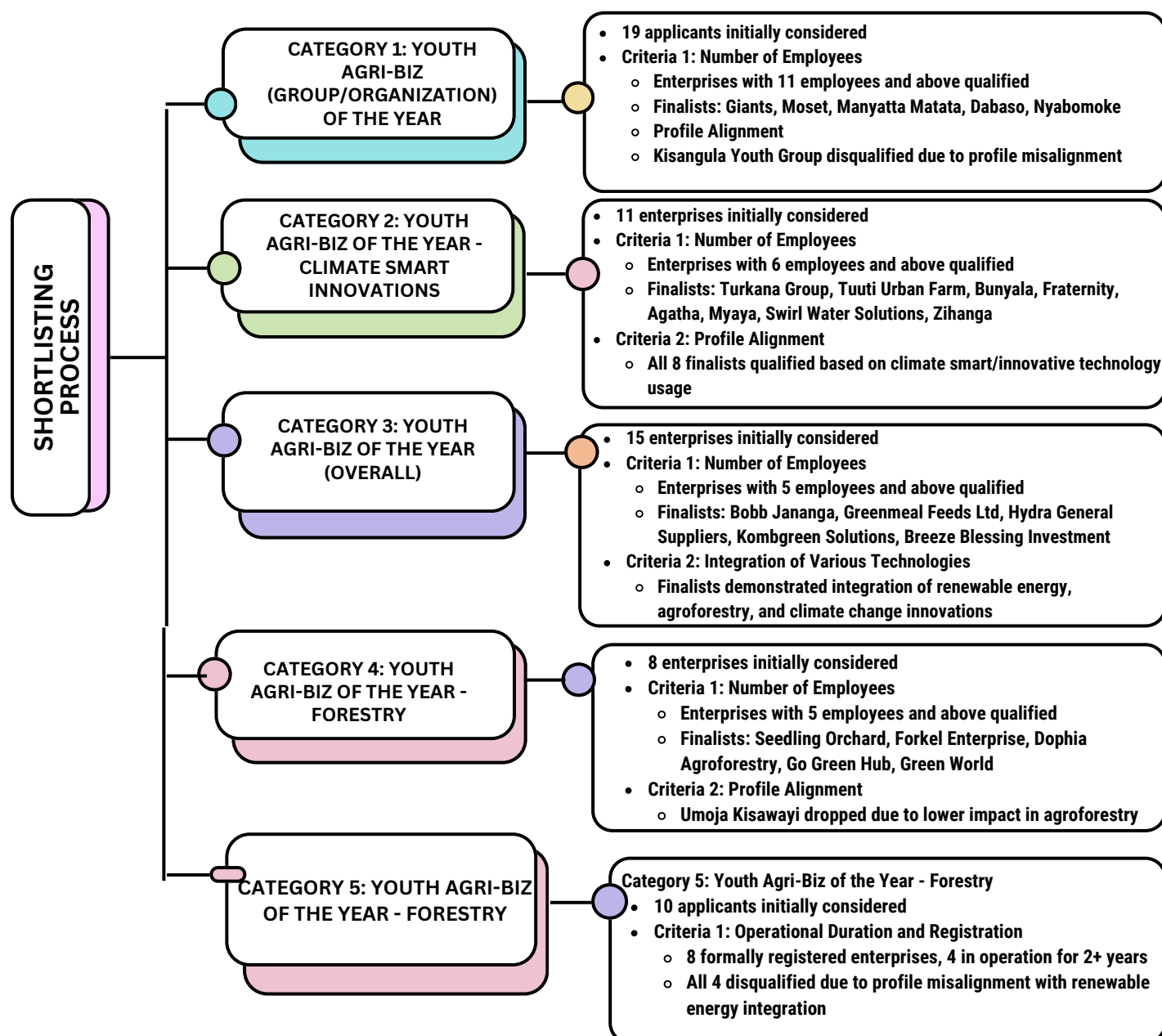
Approach:

A team developed filtration criteria for longlisting and shortlisting.

Criteria were clearly defined and adopted for use, including age, authentication, years of operation, youth leadership, business profiles, and registration.

Filtration:

1. Age: 267 applicants met the age requirement of 36 years and below.
2. Authentication: 266 applicants confirmed the accuracy of their information.
3. Years of Operation: 169 applicants had been in operation for 2 years and above.
4. Business Registration: 145 applicants indicated registration.
5. List of Referees: 144 applicants provided referees' names as required.
6. Business Profiles/Alignment to Climate Smart Agriculture:
 - a. 114 attached profiles reviewed.
 - b. 53 enterprises qualified with interventions aligned towards green innovations and practices such as vertical gardening, hydroponics, biogas uptake, etc.



Observations/Lessons Learnt

1. Low uptake of renewable energy; very few applicants have integrated renewable energy to agriculture. Which therefore implies that the renewable energy category applicants will not be targeted for this Awards.
2. In the chain of production, not many applicants are drawn from production (farming), rather from supply value chain, consultancies among others.

Challenges

1. The committee wasn't able to nail the aspect of enterprises having youthful directors since such provision wasn't clear from the application.
2. It wasn't possible to compute the youthful number of employees attached to enterprises since the application didn't give provision for submission of total number of employees.
3. Approval process of the information provided on links by applicants slowed down the process although the team managed.

Project Photos



PEACE AND GOVERNANCE



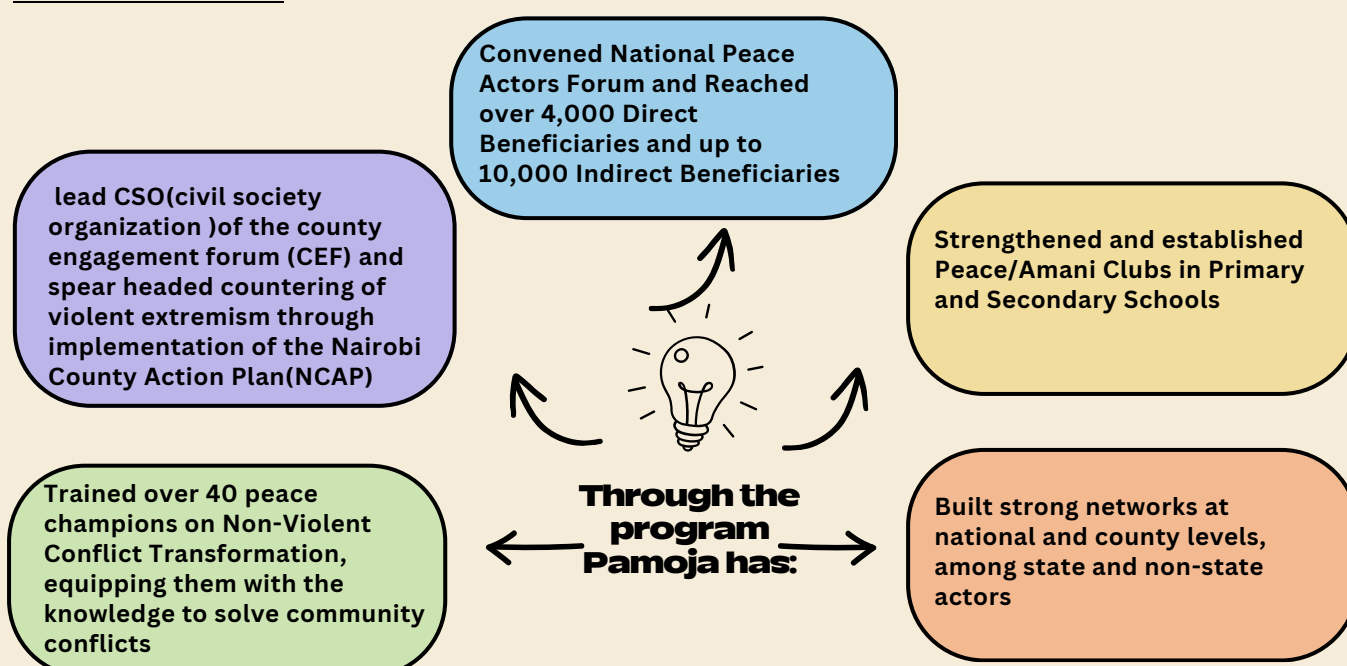
The aim of the program is to contribute to the existence and operationalization of governance framework and practices that safeguard justice, equity, rule of law, inclusivity, cohesion and civic participation. Through the program, we engage in policy influencing, as well as facilitating improved civic engagements and access to justice. The program acts as the fulcrum and equilibrium that provides the impetus and lenses for supporting the development and implementation of the Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation and Skills Enterprise and Development programs. The program is premised on the philosophy that all development needs are conflict contextual, therefore conscious integration of peace and development through climate change and SED programming is critical. Interventions are entrenched within the governance structure at the community county and national levels.

Program Aim

The program aims to strengthen accountable service delivery, promote good governance and inclusivity, cohesion and integration.



Achievements:



Program location:

Nairobi, Nakuru, Turkana, Kisumu, Migori, Bungoma, Vihiga, Kakamega, Siaya, Mombasa Kilifi, Kwale, Tanariver, Homabay, Baringo, Isiolo, Marsabit, Samburu, Kajiado



PROJECT NAME: RESILIENCE PEACE AND STABILITY PROGRAM (RPS)

Key Facts;

Counties: Kisumu, Nairobi

Donor: Danida

Partner: Act!

Status: On going

Project Context and Background

Kenya faces enduring challenges to peace and security, primarily driven by climate change, political instability, and terrorism, intertwined with issues such as youth unemployment, exploitation, and structural inequalities. Ethnic violence persists, particularly along the Kericho-Kisumu border and in the informal settlements of Kibra and Mathare. The country's failure to address historical, structural, institutional, legal, and cultural factors hampers progress towards positive peace. Overcoming these challenges requires coordinated action from political leaders, the national government, security agencies, civil society, and diverse community stakeholders, including youth, women, religious leaders, and the business community. In Kisumu County, climate change poses a significant threat to the socio-economic landscape, exacerbating conflict patterns. Depletion of natural resources, notably Lake Victoria water and fish, endangers women and youth involved in illegal fishing, impacting breeding rates. Population pressure on the lake forces fishing-dependent communities to seek alternative livelihoods, leading to conflicts in new areas. The emergence of criminal groups further exacerbates food insecurity. It is essential to safeguard Lake water resources and invest in alternative mechanisms. Understanding existing inter-group dynamics, gender norms, and their effects on women, men, and youth, particularly in informal settlements like Nyalenda, Kondele, Manyatta, Kibra, Mathare, and Kayole in Nairobi County, is vital. The rise of organized criminal gangs, including women, contributes to intergenerational conflicts, while the pursuit of immediate financial gains often disregards cultural and religious values among young people. Climate change and political influences further impact gender relations, intensifying exclusion and victimisation dynamics within and across borders in Kisumu.

Project Aim

To contribute to the decrease in political and natural resource-based conflicts in Nairobi and Kisumu counties.

Objectives:

1. To strengthen relations between groups and communities affected by conflict (inter-ethnic, intra ethnic, other conflicting in-groups and out-groups).
2. To strengthen state and non-state actor's coordination in Kisumu through capacity building and enhanced cooperation between communities and government agencies based on respect for human rights and good governance.
3. Increased anchoring of at-risk individuals in the communities through improved messaging, economic opportunities, social linkages and sense of belonging especially for women, youth and vulnerable communities to reduce pull and push factors towards violence.

Project Achievements and results

1. The program conducted dialogues among stakeholders in Kisumu and Kericho, uniting the Luo and Kipsigis communities to address the Sondu conflict.



2. The Kisumu Peace Actors' Forum, led by Pamoja successfully developed and submitted a petition to address the ongoing conflicts in Sondu. The petition highlighted key issues such as boundary disputes, double taxation of revenue, and political incitement as root causes of the conflict. It was presented to government agencies including the Ministry of Interior, NCIC, NSC, Governors of Kisumu and Kericho, and the Regional Commissioner of Nyanza region. The petition prompted action from NCIC and the Ministry of Interior, resulting in the implementation of requested transfers as advocated for by the affected community members, and the involvement of NCIC to determine the boundary.



Pictured Meschack Koballa (MERL Coordinator), Presenting the petition on Sondu conflict to H.E Professor Anyang' Nyong'o Governor Kisumu County



Pictured, Meshack Koballa (MERL Coordinator) presenting the Petition on Sondu conflict to H.E Governor Eric Mutai of Kericho County.

3. The peace actors working along Sondu adopted a roadmap, guided by NCIC, aimed at achieving a more peaceful and cohesive Sondu. This roadmap outlines specific interventions to be implemented in order to bring an end to the conflict in the area. By enhancing collaboration and coordination among different stakeholders, the roadmap seeks to foster a safer and more secure environment in Sondu.



4. The project assisted in training climate change ward committees in Kisumu following county commissioning.



Performing Art as a sensitization mechanism on Violent Extremism

PROJECT NAME: ARIVE- ACCELERATED RESPONSE INITIATIVE AGAINST VIOLENT EXTREMISM

Key Facts;

Counties: Kisumu, Nairobi

Period: May 2022- August 2023

Donor/Partner: GCERF

Status: Completed

Project Context and Background

The project aims at addressing the weak P/CVE systems, by enhancing coordination and collaboration across state and non-state actors, enhancing trust between government and communities persist and the voices of those most at-risk of radicalization and recruitment that goes unheard in the forums, platforms and amplifying policies to build greater resilience to VE. The project aims to enhance the roll out of the National Strategy to Counter Violent Extremism, focusing on local level and government structures through supporting CEFs to implement the CAPs, lobbying for mainstreaming of P/CVE through the CAPs to the County Integrated Development Plans.

Key programming areas at community level include:

1. Socio-economic Opportunities and Private Sector linkages of at risk youth and women who are vulnerable to radicalisation and recruitment.
2. Enhancing relationships between security actors and communities for strengthened EWER mechanisms.
3. Increased P/CVE awareness and alternative positive narratives to enhance Social cohesion.

Project Achievements and results

The project has managed to ensure the mainstreaming of Violent extremism activities through the members of the county engagement forum in order to strengthen the capacity of existing PCVE structures within the country and at community levels. Through mainstreaming, the pillar members have been able to conduct PCVE awareness and sensitization by implementing their matrices.

Through the political pillar, the members of the County Engagement Forum produced the first PCVE Regulations 2022 draft.

***Youth sensitization
on PCVE at
Kariakor Social
hall.***



Capacity building of CEF members on violent extremism

Project Name: Promoting inclusive peace processes in Kisumu and Bungoma counties

Key Facts;

Counties: Kisumu and Bungoma

Period: March 2023 - August 2024

Donor/Partner: GIZ/CPS

Status: On going

Project Context and Background

Kenya faces persistent threats to peace and security due to climate change, political unrest, and terrorism. Youth unemployment, exploitation, and structural inequalities worsen these issues, hindering the pursuit of positive peace.

In Kisumu and Bungoma Counties, climate change compounds challenges, intertwining with conflict. Depletion of natural resources, in lake Victoria, particularly affects women and youth who involve themselves in illegal fishing. Population pressure on the lake forces migration of fishefoke leading to conflicts in other areas.

Under the CPS Project, Pamoja for Transformation implements tailored activities in Kisumu and Bungoma Counties to address crime, insecurity, and climate change. These initiatives focus on mitigation and adaptation strategies, aiming to promote peace, security, and sustainability in the communities.



Kenya Coast Guard officer giving his address on how to minimize conflict inside Lake Victoria during community peace champion held in Kichinjio beach in Kisumu County

Project Goal

To empower youths, women and community leaders to advocate for peace and development needs and be able to facilitate intra and inter community level dialogues on civic and peace action as well as support vertical dialogue between the conflicting groups and the duty bearers in Kisumu and Bungoma Counties.

Project Achievements and results

The project achieved several milestones in Kisumu and Bungoma Counties, including a 10-day NVCT training for peace champions while also supporting them to address conflicts in their communities through their tailored interventions. The project also supported the development of peace policies for Kisumu and Bungoma by bringing together various CSO's and government agencies to take part in the entire process. Through the project, the conflict in Sondu was able to be amplified through the petition developed by peace actors calling upon the National Government and County Government to look into the issue. It also organized peace forums, developed petitions addressing Sondu Violence, and facilitated peace and civic advocacy meetings.



Participant presenting during the NVCT training for peace champions in Bungoma ***NVCT training for peace champions in Kisumu***

The project included proactive engagement by community peace actors to mitigate conflict in Bungoma and Kisumu. A total of 40 peace champions (22 males and 18 females) in both regions were trained in Nonviolent Conflict Transformation (NVCT) and successfully facilitated six community-level peace dialogues. These dialogues addressed diverse groups, including teenage mothers and their parents, Children Protection Volunteers, government officials, fishermen, and fishery officials. Pamoja staff provided support throughout these initiatives. Notable interventions included addressing insecurity concerns in Manyatta Estate through a multi-stakeholder meeting and tackling teenage pregnancy and parental rejection in Nyalenda. In Nyakach, efforts focused on preventing child rejection cases, involving sensitization of volunteers and parents on relevant legislations. A collaborative meeting was also convened at Lake Victoria to resolve Beach Management Units conflicts related to fishing practices and the adverse effects of climate change.



Throughout the project there was a substantial rise in community engagement for peace and development needs. Notably, groundwork for county peace policies commenced, with the formation of technical groups and committees in both counties. Additionally, Pamoja facilitated a stakeholder gathering resulting in a petition presented to various government bodies, addressing ongoing violence in Sondu along the Kisumu-Kericho border. This action prompted leadership dialogues initiated by NCIC toward effective solutions to foster a more peaceful and secure Sondu border.



Collaborating with the NCIC, we orchestrated a multi-stakeholder meeting uniting varied community representatives to tackle the enduring conflict in Sondu. Key stakeholders, such as the DCC, county representatives, community leaders, and the business community, actively engaged in the meeting, fostering a constructive discourse.

MEET THE MANAGEMENT TEAM



Stephen Kadenyo
Executive Director



Africanos Sumburi
Finance Manager



Meshack Koballa
Merl Coordinator



Felix Odeka
Pata School Manager



Paul Gitonga
Program Assistant-
SED



Sharon Makena
Program Officer -
Peace and
Governance



Robert Kingo
Skills and Enterprise
Development
Coordinator



Faith Adhiambo
Program Officer -
Climate Change



Suleiman Mbavu
Project Officer -
Peace & Governance



Mariam Wambui
Project Officer -
VAWG



Joshua Upande
Project Officer



Caroline Nyokabi
Communication &
Knowledge management
Officer



Everlyne Ochieng'
Accountant



Faith Zuma
Communications &
Admin Officer

PARTNERS & DONORS

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