

Kenya Country Profile and Context for COYOQA

PRESENTATION

BY

PROF. PETER BARASA

OSSREA KENYA-CHAPTER

barasap@yahoo.co.uk

+254722345603





CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

- Introduction
- Legal and Policy Framework for Social Accountability in Kenya
- Social Protection
 - Social Policy Sector
 - Environment Sector
 - Government Sector
 - Peace and Security Sector
- Reflections



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations



What is Social Accountability?

SAC is an approach towards building accountability

- that **relies on civic engagement**,
- where ordinary citizens and/or their organizations **participate** directly or indirectly in exacting accountability

SAC mechanisms can be initiated and supported by the state, citizens or both, but very often they are **demand-driven and operate from the bottom up**.

SAC mechanisms include many actions and tools that citizens, NGOs and media can use to hold public authorities accountable.

5



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



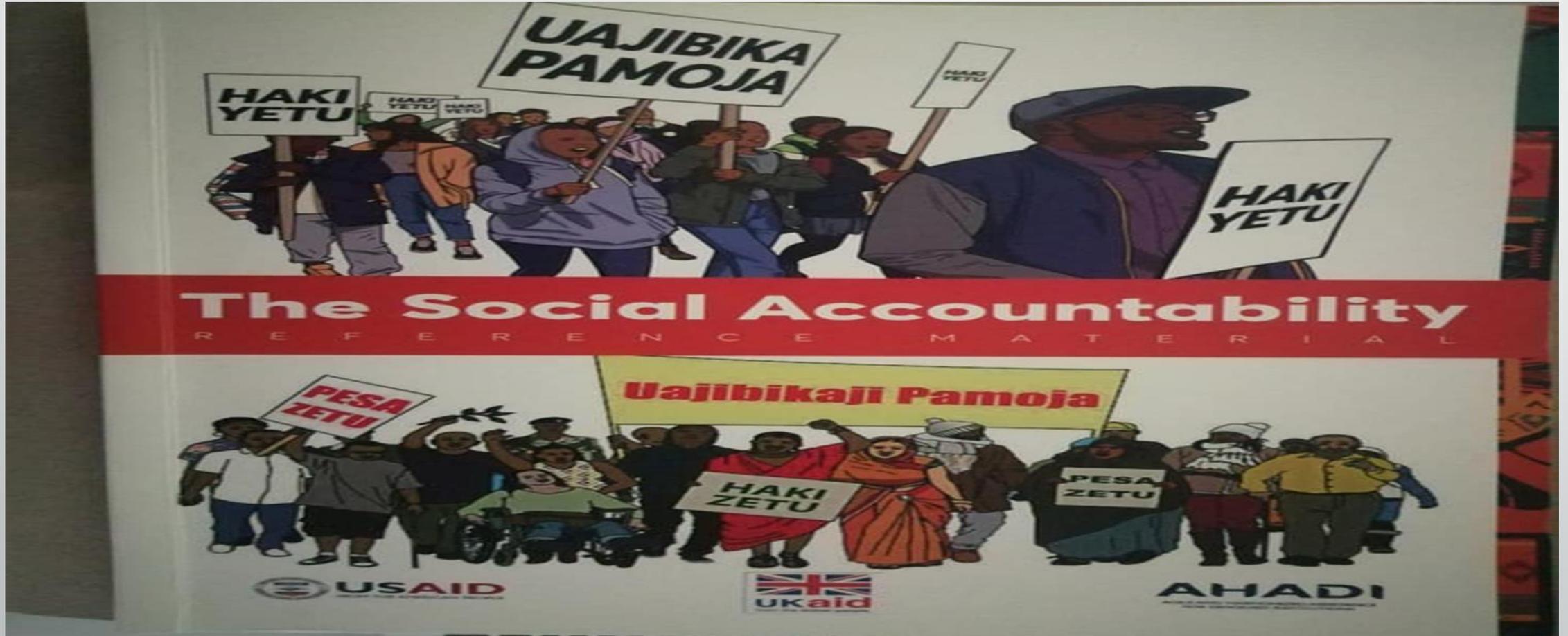
CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations



Why is Social Accountability important ?



Youth and Social Accountability



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Legal and Policy Framework for Social Accountability in Kenya

- The Constitution of Kenya 2010 (GoK, 2010, Article 10(2)) - enshrines Public participation as a critical component of consultation, collaboration and decision making in governance.
- On 25th March 2020, **President Uhuru Kenyatta** directed the appropriation of **Ksh 10 billion** to the elderly, orphans and other vulnerable members of our society through cash transfers by the **Ministry of Labour and Social Protection**, to cushion them from the adverse economic effects of the **COVID-19** pandemic.



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Legal and Policy Framework for Social Accountability in Kenya

The Constitution of Kenya 2010 (GoK, 2010, Article 4(3)) states that the state shall take measures, including affirmative action programmes, to ensure that the youth:

- Access relevant education and training.
- Have opportunities to associate, be represented and participate in political, social, economic, and other spheres of life;
- Access employment; and
- Are protected from harmful cultural practices and exploitation



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Legal and Policy Framework for Social Accountability in Kenya

- The third medium term plan 2018-2022 has put in place mechanisms such as the National Employment Policy and Strategy for Kenya and the National Youth Empowerment Strategy (NYES).
- The Government claims to implement the “Ajira Digital Program” to help bridge the gap between skills available and skills demand. Through the Ajira Digital Program and the Presidential Digital Talent Programme, the Government trains youths on online jobs.



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Legal and Policy Framework for Social Accountability in Kenya

- In May 2019, the Government launched the National Employment Authority to provide employment and internship services
- The Government through the Public Service Commission (PSC) offered more than 3,100 youths internships in various public institutions.
- In order to ensure the growth and sustainability of enterprises owned by youth, the National Treasury has reengineered the Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO) portal to enable real-time registration and transparent monitoring of the implementation of the scheme.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

FUNDING OF YOUTH ENTERPRISES

The GoK has set aside billions for youth training and entrepreneurship e.g.

- Ksh 10.2 billion has been set aside to the National Youth Service (NYS);
- Ksh 2.1 billion for the Kenya Youth Empowerment Project;
- Ksh 359 million to the Youth Enterprise Development Fund,
- and Ksh 82 million to the Youth Employment and Enterprise (Uwezo Fund).
- The Youth Enterprise Development Fund seeks to disburse 20.7 billion and cover 454,000 youths by 2022



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Social Policy Sector

- The new Kenya Economic Update Report finds that COVID-19 has damaged livelihoods, especially affecting women, youth, and refugees.
- The report recommends four policy responses:
 - supporting the liquidity of viable firms,
 - enhancing firms' digital capabilities,
 - improving access to information,
 - and improving targeting criteria for interventions to support businesses.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations

Environment Sector

- The Environment and Natural Resources Management and Protection, and Meteorological Services subsectors in Kenya strive:
 - To ensure that the procurement process is competitive with affirmative action to Youth, Women and Persons with Disability in order to ensure that the subsector gets the maximum value for money.
 - To ascertain that the mining subsector lists as a key performance indicator (KPI) the number of youth issued mining permits.

The Government rolled out the “Kazi Mtaani Programme”,

- Designed to improve public hygiene standards and undertake urban civil works.
- KSh. 10 billion was to be allocated to the “Kazi Mtaani Programme”, targeting unemployed youth in the major cities and urban settlements of Nairobi, Mombasa, Kisumu, Eldoret, Nakuru and other major towns across the country



Canada

Government Sector



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Government Sector

- The Senate ad hoc Committee on COVID-19 invited members of the public to submit their views on legislative, policy and other interventions targeted at curbing COVID-19 in five key thematic areas:
 - Health issues,
 - Economic and Finance issues,
 - Social, public order and human rights,
 - Access to food, water, and basic commodities,
 - Support services and cross-cutting issues such as awareness creation on measures to prevent infection and combat stigmatization and the role of ICT in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.



Canada



CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Do we have any data to show the input of Youth and their concerns during the COVID-19 period?



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Peace and Security Sector

- Kenya aspires to be a nation of peace and stability.
- National security and protection of individuals and property, peace building and conflict resolution are cross-cutting enablers of Vision 2030.
- COVID-19 pandemic, there has been a significant rise in cybercrime as organised crime syndicates

< <https://planning.go.ke/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/THIRD-MEDIUM-TERM-PLAN-2018-2022.pdf> >



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Peace and Security Sector

Covid-Pandemic and Crime

- With youth demographic facing many challenges such as unemployment, they become targets and subsequent perpetrators of these crimes.
- Cases of youth radicalization to have gone up during this pandemic period. In this regard Kenya's Third Medium Term Plan 2018-2022 identifies **cybercrime, terrorism, increased incidences of radicalization, extremism, domestic and gender based violence** as some of the emerging challenges that are likely to exacerbate during this pandemic period.
- *Bwire Victor, (2020) 'Radicalization and violent extremism in the wake of COVID-19 pandemic' Capital News 29th April, 2020*



Canada



CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Who were the victims of police excesses during the Lockdown in Busia, Mombasa and Nairobi?



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations

County Situation During COVID-19 Pandemic

In Kenya, this study will focus on the Counties of Nairobi, Mombasa and Busia among those with a record highest infection rates of COVID-19 (coronavirus).

1. Busia County

- **Unemployment** stands at **66.7%** despite numerous interventions for employment creation
- The youth age group in Busia (18-35) currently constitutes 38% of the total population
- The youth face a myriad of challenges that include but are not limited to unemployment, drug and substance abuse, and health issues occasioned by unfulfilled needs.
- The county through its youth empowerment and social inclusion approach has revamped efforts to enhance empowerment of youth in decision making, economic empowerment and participation and social development.
- The County's Annual Development Plan 2020, the Youth, Culture, Sports, Tourism and Social Services department is tasked with mobilizing the community for sustainable social protection through creation of equal opportunity for youth, women and PWDs



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

County Situation During COVID-19 Pandemic

2. Mombasa County

- 47 per cent of the Mombasa county's population comprise youth between age 15 and 35 years.
- The County, recognized the need to initiate programs and projects that address youth issues, put up more youth polytechnics and vocational training centres to absorb the increasing youth population
- Enhancing youth participation in socioeconomic activities was thus identified as a development objective. The following strategies were carved out;
 - Supporting youth groups with business funds;
 - Development of one stop youth resource Centre; creative arts Talent centres established;
 - establishing alcohol and substance abuse rehabilitation centres; Networking and collaboration with existing organizations;
 - Establish industrial parks; formation of CBOs associations, co-operatives, and companies for youth empowerment;
 - Training in entrepreneurship skills;
 - Capacity building on financial management;
 - Establish Youth Empowerment Centres;



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

County Situation During COVID-19 Pandemic

- Enhanced access to development funding (Youth Fund, Women Fund, Uwezo Fund); mobilize resources from potential donors/partners;
- Provide seed grants for innovative and sustainable ventures
- The county's expenditure of youth, gender and sports sector comprised 2.4% of its budget between the financial years 2013/2014 to 2018/2019.
- However, the absorption rate for the youth sector was a lowly 49.9%, meaning that less than half of allocated funds were actually utilized for their intended purposes.
- In its Annual Development Plan for 2020/2021 the county seeks to empower 10,000 youth through training and skills development.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

County Situation During COVID-19 Pandemic

3. Nairobi County

- In its County Development Plan for 2018-2022, Nairobi County committed to the attainment of eight outcomes, one of which was empowerment of youth, women, people living with disabilities.
- The youth age group in Nairobi (15 - 29 years) represents 38.7% of the total population in the County and 56.6% of the labour force.
- This forms the most active population in the County since it is the age where human capital is being developed through education, training, and skills development.
- Unemployment: The slow growth of the economy, low growth of the formal sector and demand for previous work experience by potential employers has left about 60% of the youth unemployed.
- The County also sought to ensure that the youth are well informed of available credit services such as the Constituency Youth Enterprise Scheme and Fund (C-Yes), Uwezo Fund and programmes under various development agencies that can assist youth groups in promoting their business activities.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations

County Situation During COVID-19 Pandemic

3. Nairobi County

- Health: The youth being the most active sector in the community are more exposed to risky behaviour like drug and substance abuse, irresponsible sexual behaviours that make them prone to HIV/AIDS and other STDs.
- Education and training: The youth in the County lack adequate training facilities to equip them with necessary skills needed for self-employment.
- The Nairobi County Government thus listed the following objectives with respect to the youth
 - To empower youth through quality vocational training in the County; The budget estimation for this target was stated to be KShs. 600 million
 - To provide opportunities for economic participation for the youth; employment opportunities created for youth and % of compliance with Access to Government Procurement Opportunities (AGPO).
 - Improve transition and retention rate of needy and vulnerable students in secondary education and ECDE training programs.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

Challenges facing Youth in Kenya

- Unemployment among the youth
- Inaccessible health facilities
- Drug and Substance Abuse
- Need for Education and Training
- Inability to access credit facilities
- Need for youth empowerment and inclusion centres

These juxtaposed against the pandemic are issues to reflect upon and ask how prepared are the youth to be vanguards of social accountability in a country where corruption and police misuse of power is rampant.



Canada



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

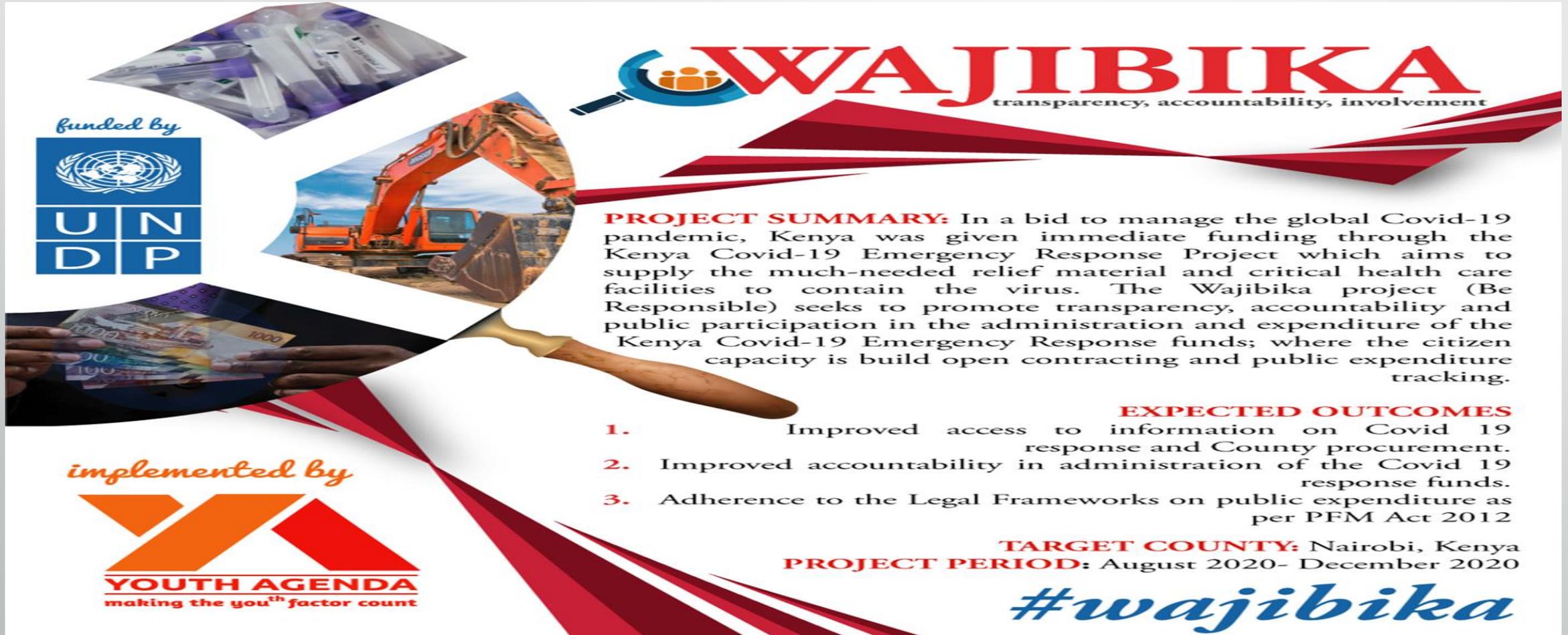
Reflections

- Level of awareness among the youth about SAC
- Preparedness of the Youth in ensuring SAC
- Legal Framework for protecting Youth Organizations during SAC situations
- Lessons from the three County Contexts in Kenya
- Integrating knowledge systems from the Region to strengthen Youth involvement in SAC



Canada

The Youth Agenda and Social Accountability in the Covid-19 Period



funded by


Wajibika
transparency, accountability, involvement

PROJECT SUMMARY: In a bid to manage the global Covid-19 pandemic, Kenya was given immediate funding through the Kenya Covid-19 Emergency Response Project which aims to supply the much-needed relief material and critical health care facilities to contain the virus. The Wajibika project (Be Responsible) seeks to promote transparency, accountability and public participation in the administration and expenditure of the Kenya Covid-19 Emergency Response funds; where the citizen capacity is build open contracting and public expenditure tracking.

EXPECTED OUTCOMES

1. Improved access to information on Covid 19 response and County procurement.
2. Improved accountability in administration of the Covid 19 response funds.
3. Adherence to the Legal Frameworks on public expenditure as per PFM Act 2012

TARGET COUNTY: Nairobi, Kenya
PROJECT PERIOD: August 2020- December 2020

#wajibika

implemented by

YOUTH AGENDA
making the youth factor count



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations



IDRC · CRDI

Canada

The Youth Agenda and Social Accountability in the Covid-19 Period



CEWARN



CCRDA

Consortium of Christian Relief & Development Associations



IDRC · CRDI

Canada



CCRDA
Consortium of Christian Relief &
Development Associations

