



OUR VISION: A free, just and democratically governed society that upholds progressive equality

Special point of issue

- SAFE Project
- International day of youth celebrated in Malindi
- Counties land and devolved government clinics
- International day of peace coast region
- Tana-delta crisis
- Kinango district sensitization workshops

Supporting Active Citizens Participation in Peaceful and Fair Elections



KECOSCE with support from United states international development agency PACT WORLD and ACT! is implementing the Supporting Active participation in peaceful and Fair Elections at the coast of Kenya. (SAFE project).

In this quarter KECOSCE conducted a series of activities namely; locational level learning hour in LungaLunga, quarterly follow DPC meeting in Malindi, Lamu and Voi , ID registration in Magarini division (Ng’omeni and Shomellah location), Lango baya (Mkondoni) and Kiunga division (Mkokoni, Mararani, Basuba, Mangai and Milimani sub-location) and launching of coast peace monitors. The main focus of the project is to enhance understanding of devolution and facilitate community participation and enhance a culture of tolerance for peaceful co-existence amongst communities.

KECOSCE collaborated with Central Registration Bureau officers to conduct mobile Identification Cards issuance camps in Magarini and Kiunga Division of Kilifi and Lamu counties. KECOSCE intends to compliment the governments national wide campaign to issue 6 million new ID cards to Kenya by the end of 2012. In this quarter we managed to register 587 people in the above divisions . .

KECOSCE staff took the initiative to inform the applicants of the online process of checking the status of their application by sending an SMS to 2031. In areas like Kiunga division of Lamu county, we faced the challenge caused by the distance between the villages and photocopying facilities. Its interesting to learn that applicants have to travel to Lamu Island about 200 km to access photocopying machines to enable them avail the necessary documents for registration. Had we known this before, we could have carried a small photocopier to facilitate this process. Once therefore understandings why the people of Kiunga have never seen government officers issuing ID cards and majority of them do not possess this important document.

In the month of August, KECOSCE organized a locational learning hour in Magarini division Gongoni location at Watatu hall which was attended by total of 144 youth . KECOSCE partnered with the IEBC, national registration bureau and ministry of youth affair to attribute the thematic objective of the event , which foster to build awareness on international day of youth and peace day, their themes and application to the KENYA context and sensitize youth to participate peacefully and in good number in the forth coming general elections.



The forum came at time when the country was conducting both county peace forum and national peace conference . This forum was used as platform to keep the participants a breast of the constitutional and institutional reforms process in the country and encourage youth to participate fully in the implementation processes and extricate themselves from political and social manipulation by groups whose interest is to misuse the youth energies and direct them towards violence. According to the 2010 register, the constituency only achieved 46% registration of voters from 109 polling stations. Such a shocking statistic was attributed to low literacy levels in Magarini, limited voter education, lack of valid national ID cards/ passports, seasonal migration and voter apathy. The need for the government to fast track the issuance of identity cards and community empowerment on the important of voting .

The matter of insecurity , has been ramped in couple of months especially in the coast region, which as brought down the booming business and the peaceful coexistences among the communities.

KECOSCE launched the Coast Early warning system (CEWER). The system is supported by 30 peace monitors distributed in the 6 counties of the coast region. The peace monitors gather, verify and sent alert of incident in there localities to alert no.0726549400.



Activities pictures for the quarter.

Commemoration of international day of YOUTH celebrated in Malindi.

The United Nations' (UN) International Youth Day is celebrated on August 12 each year to recognize efforts of the world's youth in enhancing global society. It also aims to promote ways to engage them in becoming more actively involved in making positive contributions to their communities. KECOSCE customized the theme: Building a better world, partnering with youth to suit the Kenyan context where "**Kama Youth, Kwa Amani na Uongozi Bora, BOSS NI MIMI**" was adopted. This theme seeks to engage youth to become conscious and alive to the fact that they are the determinants in the voting process, and that based on this they should endeavor to exercise their rights by acquiring Identity, and voters' cards, and safeguard this right by fostering peace and stability. KECOSCE conducted two build up forum in KWALE and MALINDI with the aim of creating awareness on the international day of youth and to prepare youth for mobilization and participation on that day.



We managed to reach a total of 390 youth in the respective division. Number of issues were discussed namely ;Challenges facing youth towards the growth of our economy, opportunities presented in the new constitution , effect changes in their localities like involvement in land issues in terms of acquisition, tenure and land security in the onset of new land legislation (land policy and land acts).

The ministry of youth and sports affairs, eco bank and the procurement department officer had a session presentation to highlight youth opportunities to unlock their potential.

KECOSCE joined hands with IEBC , sensitize youth on the measures the commission is undertaking to ensure peaceful, credible and fair elections, youth were urged to disengage themselves from secessionist movements. As the government is determined in ensuring every Kenyan's right to vote is protected.



The great event was marked through a peace procession flagged in by Malindi district officer which began from DO's office to Ngala grounds. Approximately 1000 youth attended the occasion. KECOSCE had mounted signboards in Kilifi and Malindi with crucial messages of the day and especially during this campaigning time for the forth coming election and encourage youth to be more vigilant and focus to elect good leaders.

The messages adopted on the signboard , stated as "**KAMA MKENYA KWA UONGOZI BORA NA AMANI, BOSS NI MIMI** . Which means As a Kenyan, I am the boss as far as peace and positive leadership is concerned .youth were administered t-shirts and flyers to distribute to the public prior to the message. At the ground, youth groups and artists from Malindi and Mombasa entertained participants with different categories of songs coral verses, skit and plays passing messages of persuasion to transform their lives without dependency and maintain peace during election process. KECOSCE spearheaded this session where the SAFE project was highlighted, and emphasis pegged on the theme for the day . District youth officer Malindi address opportunities on youth enterprise development fund and how they can be acquired for small scale business to earn a living.

Mombasa county on devolution and land reform policies workshops.

The transformation of communities will depend on newly enacted land laws in the county. Land and natural resources utilization and distribution have dominated the road to economic, political and social transformation in the Coast. These are the factors that have hindered development and at the heart of every indigenous coastal community. Utilization of resources have been left in the hands of the few people while majority have languished as squatters since independence. Lack of title deed as leading to many community being evicted from they owned land. New dawn for the coast communities as been perceived by the passing of the new constitution which stipulate the different rights'. With the establishment of land reforms will assist the quest that have been existing .

These quarter , KECOSCE with support with MENSEN METEEN MISSIE has conducted sensitization workshops at Likoni, Miritini, and Mtopanga attended by 303 participants including, youth, men and women from Mombasa County.

The aim of the workshops was to create awareness to the communities on rights of land as enshrined in the constitution,



Project officers informed participants that every person has the right to own land within the areas of living without harassments or discrimination as referred to in the constitution Article (45)

They also urged that there are equal rights on men and women in political, social, cultural and economic arena. Article (27). Women have been discriminated and segregated in the past years they had no voice of participating in any activity e.g. in politics they had no rights of vying for any position in the government or even owning land was an offence to them. In this article women have the same rights of participating in any activities like men. They also shared with the participants the need to

the current and future needs in view of social and economic dynamics in the land sector. Also community land board to be elected to ensure the past abuse to people on land are not repeated as the board takes care of these problems. The impacts of these workshops have increased the level of understanding on land acts and women opportunities in the constitution and other reform process in the constitution thus they can fight for them. Women have been able to know the importance of participating in land reforms thus they have the rights of owning a land like any other person.

Some communities have been isolated from getting their rights e.g. displaced from their origin land thus ending up being squatters. Therefore the government has recognized them and is helping them to know and fight for their rights.

International Day of Peace Celebration in Mtwapa (Finika ground)

The international day of peace is commemorated annually on 21 September annually. The day is used to recognize the efforts of those who have worked hard to end conflicts and promote peace. This year theme is "sustainable peace for sustainable future".



KECOSCE collaborated with other partner organizations namely; Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance (KMYA), Kituo Cha Sheria, Sauti Ya Wanawake, Bomu Clinic, Kenya Land Alliance (KLA) and provincial administration officers, to commemorate the international day of peace. The day was commemorated in style, colorful and pomp at Mtwapa (finika ground). Starting with a peace procession flagged off by the District Officer at the Police station, KECOSCE distributed 4000 flyers with key peace messages to the residents of the town. A total of 500 people participated, in the event. The participants marched carry-

ing out banners, posters and administering of flyers with the peace messages that states; UKIPANDA AMANI UTAVUNA USTAWI, UKIPANDA CHUKI, UTAVUNA CHUKI, JE! WATAKA KUVUNA LIPI?. The message urged the community to be more vigilant towards maintaining peace and abate violence. At the ground different prominent person give out their speeches pertain the day. Among the speakers were District Peace Committee, Women leaders, youth leaders religious leaders, local politicians, district officer and kilifi county commissioner. The district peace committee message the participate is for community to embrace peace in localities without discrimination of any nature in term religious back ground and ethnic group but to coexist to sustain and foster in natural resources.



Naima Achieng, the leader of sauti ya wanawake pwani spoke elaborately about the opportunities and benefit under the devolution for women, youth, marginalized communities and the importance of local communities turning up in big numbers during the election to elect their preferred leaders. Madam Naima encouraged the women and youth to provide leadership this year to ensure peaceful campaigns and eventually their participation in the voting process.

Religious leaders led by Sheikh Juma Ngao of Kenya Muslims Advisory Council (KEMNAC) and Rev. Alfred Obuya of Kenya National Inter-religious Network (KENIN) spoke about the values promoted by religion on tolerance, embracing diversity amongst people of different faiths and called on those who threaten coast people with violence to stop using religious platform and places of worship to mislead the coast communities. They pledged their support to government efforts to crack down illegal radical extremist groups who mobilize the youth burn their voters cards and identification cards citing this as criminal acts that must be met with equal measure of the force of law. The politicians present pledged to keep peace during their campaigns.

TANA DELTA WOOS, WHO IS TO BLAIM ?

Tana river county is one of the counties in the coastal region of Kenya. Named after river tana, the county has three districts namely: Tana delta, Tana North and Tana river districts, it borders Garissa to the northeast, Isiolo to the north, Ijara to the east, Mwingi to the west, Lamu to the south east and Indian ocean to the south. The larger district has been subdivided into three new districts, Tana river consist of galole and wenje division, Tana North District comprising Bura, Madogo and Bangale and Tana Delta District that comprise Garsen, Tarasaa and Kipini Divisions. The major tribal groups found are Pokomo's, Orma and Wardei, the communities depend in farming where Pokomo's are crop farmers and Orma's are pastoralists' as pre-dominantly cattle herding nomadic people. Tana River County is dry and prone to drought with erratic rainfall. The environmental situation has sparked numerous clashes over the pasture between the two communities.

The area is sanctified with a number of natural resources which includes; indigenous forest, wildlife, fertile soil and water from river TANA which is shared among the different communities. The major blow it comes during dry season when the conflict over pasture and water start.



The current conflict experience ever in Tana delta was source by killing of a sheep that belongs to a Pokomo man. The sheep belonged to a Pokomo man grazed in an Orma farm killed the sheep. This was the source point of the conflict which erupted in return for revenge purpose. Tana River erupted into full blown community massacre leaving over 120 people dead, over 12000 displaced and property worth million of money destroyed. The conflict has further destroyed peoples livelihoods and disrupted education for the children. Most affected by women and children and more the people on medical care as more specifically people living with HIV/AIDSs as they were unable to access daily medication owing to the clashes. While he two communities have been co-existing peacefully, some of the observatory reckon the

conflict mighty be politically insinuated. In this pattern, we have two structures-the few rich and the many poor so to make one community weak and the other group to continue dominating politically. It is claimed that politicians have acquired immense land in the Tana, and would do anything to protect their newly acquired wealth. The county government structures seem to be fueling the conflict as leaders claim supremacy over the others as see by the waging war of words between politicians.



KECOSCE WOMEN SENSITIZED ON LAND OWNERSHIP IN KINANGO DISTRICT

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ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON? DO YOU WANT TO UNLOCK YOUR ECONOMIC POTENTIAL? JOIN THE COAST YOUTH ENTERPRENUER SACCO. Call us on 0716556773, OR 0716777230 FOR MORE DETAILS

With funding from ALLAVIDA, KECOSCE conducted six sensitization workshops in Kinango district targeting women, community leaders, clan leaders and ministry of land officials. The workshops benefited about 170 people.



Two workshops were organized specifically for women to sensitize them on the new constitution, the land chapter which does not only recognize land co-ownership between spouses but also recognized property owned by women. Two workshops were held for clan leaders to sensitize them on the provisions of the new land law and discussing with strategies to embrace the new developments within the cultural context amongst the communities in the project area. Two more workshops were held jointly

for women, clan leaders and local leader, the workshop were facilitated by officers from the Kenya Land Alliance, the Ministry of Land, the Independence Electoral and Boundaries Commission and KECOSCE officials. The workshops focused on land ownership, electoral process and strategies to ensure women voices is strengthened to enable them participate in leadership and decision making processes in the district. These workshops were held to strengthen the joint project between KECOSCE and ALLAVIDA aimed at developing aloe farming and cottage industry in Kinango district with women and girls empowerment as a major focus area.

KECOSCE PICTORAL FOR THE ON GOING PROJECT ACTIVITIES



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