

ANNUAL REPORT

2020



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Regions Where We Work



Kenyan Counties that have benefitted from our work:

 **Nairobi**

 **Kajiado**

 **Marsabit**

 **Garissa**

 **Homa Bay**

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OUR VISION

A society that respects and upholds human rights and human dignity.

OUR MISSION

To promote social justice in East Africa through research, capacity building, advocacy and public interest litigation.

OUR OBJECTIVES

To be a leading think tank in the promotion, protection and enhancement of economic, social and cultural rights and equitable development among the vulnerable and marginalized groups.

To enhance the promotion, protection and enhancement of economic and social rights and equitable development among the vulnerable and marginalized groups.

To enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the organization through institutional strengthening and capacity building.



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD

Welcome to our Annual Report for the year ended 31st December 2020. I begin by conveying cordial greetings from the entire Board of Directors. I am pleased to inform you that the East African Centre for Human Rights (EACHRights) has continued delivering on its vision, mission and objectives despite a particularly challenging operating environment in 2020.

During the year under review, the board has been fully engaged and supportive in providing strategic direction of the organization by steering it towards the actualization of the Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023. This plan has guided the assessment of our strengths and weaknesses, sharpened our strategic focus areas and enabled us develop new organizational policies and review existing ones as detailed in this Annual Report. As a result, EACHRights policies are not only strong and sound but also meet international standards.

Last year also saw EACHRights sign important partnerships. These actions created new platforms for engagement putting us on the path for future growth. I would like to highlight the memorandum of understanding signed with the University of Stirling, Scotland which will provide new opportunities for internship and joint research. Special mention also goes to our collaboration with Global Initiative for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR) and the African Commission on People's and Human Rights (ACPHR) which has escalated our work at the global level and regional level.

The year 2020 was the most challenging year for EACHRights since its inception. After a promising start with positive performance in the first weeks of the year, our full attention turned to the persistent spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the child rights sector. The Board of Directors worked closely with the Chief Executive Officer to define and implement measures to protect the organization and strengthen its resilience.

EACHRights' success would not have been possible without the strong support accorded by our long-term and new development partners. I take this opportunity to appreciate our development partners ERIKS and Open Society Foundation (OSF) for walking with us this far. I also extend an invitation to more development partners to support EACHRights' work.

Secondly, EACHRights' achievements have also been made possible by the guidance of our very able Board of Directors drawn from different fields in law, human rights, human resource and governance. I thank my colleagues for their leadership, professionalism and commitment. Finally, I extend my gratitude to the hard working and professional staff. Thank you for your commitment, sacrifice and dedication in delivering results with utmost professionalism and integrity.

I am honoured to serve as your Chairman and I have every confidence that the board and management team will continue to build upon the success of EACHRights.

Isaack Otieno Okero
Chairman of the Board



MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

I am delighted to be introducing the 2020 Annual Report: the first ever for EACHRights. From the time I took up this role, it has become increasingly clear to me that the Non-Governmental Organization (NGO) sector while attractive, has undergone significant changes that have presented both opportunities and challenges.

As EACHRights turns 11 years old this year, we have numerous milestones to celebrate. We have established ourselves as a think tank and authority on child rights. We have touched the lives of many children who have benefitted from our programs on child protection, education and health. The fruits of our work are evident in the policies that have been passed at both county and national levels. We have also embarked on research and strategic partnerships that the child rights sector has greatly benefited from. The EACHRights brand we have built has enabled us penetrate new frontiers such as earning observer status at the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of Children (ACERWC) in 2014. This status paved the way for high-level engagement on child rights matters within the African Union. Moving forward, we look forward to attaining observer status with the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights (ACHPR).

The year 2020 was very challenging because of the COVID-19 pandemic which had an adverse effect on EACHRights' operations and programming. We had to embrace innovative ways of working. Since the welfare of staff is our foremost priority, we accorded our staff the liberty to work remotely so as to maintain their safety and optimum work output. As a result, we continued with the implementation of our projects even at the height of the pandemic and have continued to do so in the present, while observing the globally recommended health guidelines.

In programming, our notable achievements in 2020 include "Enough is Enough" online discussion with eight current and former United Nations Special rapporteurs on Economic, Social and Cultural (ECOSOC) rights. These discussions centred on the impact of privatisation and delved into renewed strategies and momentum for the public provision of services related to ECOSOC rights such as health, education, water sanitation and housing. EACHRights also partnered with the Standard Media Group in carrying out the 'Tunza Watoto Wetu' campaign focussing on the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on child rights violations, specifically teenage pregnancies, child marriage, female genital mutilation in Kajiado and Homabay counties.

Among the objectives we have set for ourselves this year is to expand the good work we have done in Kenya as we strive to replicate the same in Uganda and Tanzania. We will take the bold step of going regional! I invite you to read on other achievements contained in this report.

In conclusion, I want to thank EACHRights' board, my colleagues, friends and partners of the organization for their solidarity as I remain confident in our ability to deliver our 2021 agenda.

Dr. Judith Oloo
Chief Executive Officer



About EACHRights

The East African Centre for Human Rights (also known as EACHRights) was established in May 2010 to undertake Human Rights work at a regional context. The organization is a non-partisan, regional Non-Governmental Organization that seeks to initiate and undertake programmes that promote, protect, and enhance Economic, Social, and Cultural Rights (ECOSOC Rights) in Kenya, Uganda and Tanzania for vulnerable and marginalized groups.

The organization specializes on the Right to Education, Right to Health and Child Protection using the following strategic approaches: Research and Monitoring; Awareness Creation and Capacity Building; Policy Reform & Advocacy and Access to Justice (Public Interest Litigation & the Pro-Bono Lawyers Scheme).

Children are the key beneficiaries of our programmes and we remain committed to preventing them from all forms of violation. We are a member of the Kenya Children Agenda Forum, a Kenyan civil society coalition that seeks to create an open platform for child-focused organizations to engage in the Post 2015 Development Agenda. The Coalition was established due to the need for a coordinated voice in advocating for the inclusion of children's concerns in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) discourse in Kenya, with a clear linkage to the global arena.

We also engage in Treaty Reporting to the Committee on the Rights of the Child (CRC), The Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (CESCR), The African Commission on Human and Peoples Rights (ACHPR) and the African Committee of Experts on the Right and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC). In addition, we have observer status at the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) since 2014.

As EACHRights, we spearheaded the formation of The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network (EACRN), a regional network of national child rights coalitions in Eastern Africa. EACRN coordinates efforts by Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in advocating for children's rights. EACHRights hosts the secretariat of the network. For more information on EACRN, you can contact them via secretariat@eacrn.net.

Our Programmes

1. Education Support Programme (ESP)

EACHRights has been promoting the Right to Education in Kenya through research, advocacy, policy engagement, awareness creation and capacity building since 2015. Over the past two years, EACHRights' activities have created opportunities to further the right to education agenda in the pursuit of ensuring that all children have access to freequality basic education.

The goal of the Education Support Programme (ESP) is to increase access to free, quality, basic education for all children. It also aims to reduce the increasing trend of privatisation of education and address its negative impact through the following outcomes:

- Improved enforcement of education policy for improved access
- Enhanced quality availability of public education
- Enhanced social accountability
- Improved school governance
- Enhanced partnerships for greater accountability

The activities revolve around addressing and assessing the following themes which in one sense are considered as pathways to accountability:

- Education financing for the right to education
- The quality assurance function
- Improvement of school governance and management
- Community engagement and institutional strengthening of both Civil Society Organisations and the public sector

Children are the key beneficiaries of the Education Support Program, especially those from marginalized areas such as low-income settlements.



Kibra (formerly known as Kibera) is one of the largest urban informal settlements (slum) in Africa.

ESP has supported community liaisons from the following slums by empowering them on human rights:

- Mukuru Kwa Njenga
- Kibra
- Dandora
- Huruma
- Baba Ndogo
- Mathare

2. Watoto Wetu

Since 2016, EACHRights has been implementing the Watoto Wetu Programme whose purpose is to contribute to the reduction of harmful cultural practices such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) & Child Marriage. Watoto Wetu also seeks to enhance access to education in the pastoralist counties of Kajiado, Garissa and Marsabit with a specific focus on the girls.

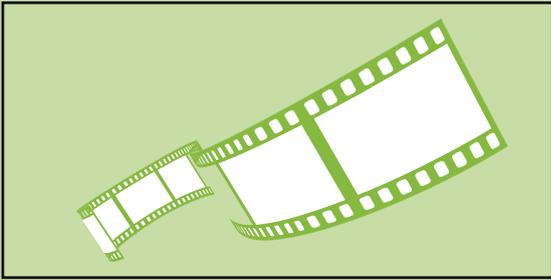
This programme has two objectives:

- To increase awareness and government engagement on child rights issues at the national level and in Garissa, Marsabit and Kajiado counties through advocacy and lobbying by 2021.
- To enhance evidence-based programming and decision making for implementing partners and other stakeholders towards ending FGM and Child Marriage by 2021



Anti-FGM Civil Society Organizations (CSO) Representatives from Marsabit County train on community dialogue guidelines at Jirime Hotel.

2020 Programme Highlights



‘Nielimishe’ Film Launch

‘Nielimishe’ is a film highlighting the challenges that school-going children face in their pursuit of accessing quality education in low-income urban areas.



‘Enough is Enough’ Webinar

It was an online discussion with eight current and former United Nations Special rapporteurs on ECOSOC rights in the context of privatisation and public services.



Media Advocacy through Radio Shows

Targeted local radio shows brought together Homa Bay county community stakeholders including children to discuss the spike in teenage pregnancy and child labor in the context of COVID-19.



Registration guidelines

We formulated registration guidelines for basic education institutions.

- Radio talk shows in FGM-prone areas
- Gender Technical Working Group (TWG) workshops
- Capacity building in anti-FGM community dialogue guidelines
- #TunzaWatotoWetu Campaign



(L to R) Watoto Wetu Programme Manager, Marcelino Thuku, Marsabit County Co-ordinator Children Services, Mr. Simeon Ogao, and Marsabit Women Advocacy and Development Organization (MWADO) CEO, Nuria Golo, discuss Anti-FGM issues at IBSE FM Radio Station in Garissa County.



CSO Representatives from Marsabit County during a training on Anti-FGM community dialogue guidelines at Holale Resort, Moyale.

The 5 pillars of our Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023



PILLAR 1

ECOSOC (Economic, Social and Cultural Rights) Advocacy

Through this strategic pillar, EACHRights will seek to establish itself as dependable research and evidence-based program organization, keen to use field experiences and knowledge in shaping views and stimulating both learning and innovation on ECOSOC rights.

PILLAR 2

Capacity Development/Sytem Strengthening

Under this pillar, EACHRights seeks to strengthen the capacity of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) in the region through knowledge and skills building on Child Rights Laws and policies. We shall also seek to facilitate organizational development and institutional strengthening of the said CSOs.

PILLAR 3

Research and Knowledge Management

Through this strategic pillar, EACHRights will seek to establish itself as dependable research and evidence-based program organization, keen to use field experiences and knowledge in shaping views and stimulating both learning and innovation on ECOSOC rights.

PILLAR 4

Partnership Development

This pillar focuses on systems thinking; that alone, EACHRights may not achieve sustainable change. It seeks to contribute to joint learning, program synergies and scaling of impact through established strategic collaborations.

PILLAR 5

Institutional Development

Through this pillar, EACHRights seeks to enhance its own institutional relevance, effectiveness and sustainability by strengthening our resource base, demonstrating of results, policy environment and staff care.

Our Programmatic Activities as Per the Strategic Plan 2019 - 2023

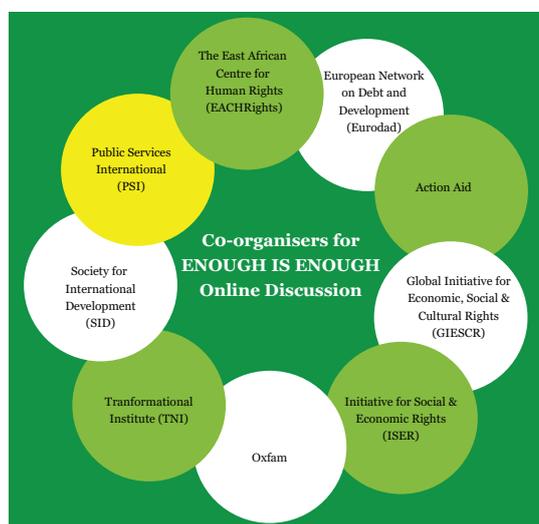
Strategic Pillar 1 ECOSOC Rights Advocacy

This is what Education Support Programme (ESP) undertook within the ECOSOC Rights Advocacy.

1. Policy Formulation of the Registration Guidelines for Basic Education Institutions (2021)

EACHRights had a seat at the table in the government-led policy development process of the Registration Guidelines for Basic Education Institutions, 2021. EACHRights' involvement in consultative meetings and submissions (in partnership with other CSOs) resulted in the creation of tailored guidelines that will raise the standard of quality of education services provided by both public, private schools, and Alternative Provision of Basic Education and Training (APBET) institutions.

2. Enough is Enough Online Discussion with United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteurs



We successfully pioneered a virtual multi-faceted event whose discussion highlighted the renewed momentum towards strategies for the public provision of services related to Economic, Social and Cultural rights such as health, education, water sanitation and housing.

The webinar set the stage for a dynamic discussion with 8 current and former United Nations (UN) Special Rapporteurs as well as an independent expert. Experts from the education field came together to foster insightful conversations that reflect on the impact of privatization.

Together with our co-organizers and stakeholders, we pulled off a successful event. To access the webinar, you can go to the link -<https://bit.ly/3mFfrha>

3. 'Nielimishe' Film Launch

EACHRights affirmed their commitment to establishing education as a fundamental human right for all children by releasing a documentary-style film titled 'Nielimishe', Swahili for 'Educate Me'. The 13-minute film brings attention to the challenges school-going children face when it comes to accessing quality education in low-income urban environments. Through the film's firsthand depiction of students' everyday reality, EACHRights achieved their goal of empowering the children in the film and amplifying the voices of other children to demand to be educated.

The successful release of 'Nielimishe' brought to light the concerted efforts of parents, teachers, the government and the wider community to uphold and improve the existing education institutions in the informal settlements. By sharing the film with a greater audience, EACHRights creatively amplified the voices of the most affected and therefore raised awareness of the challenges that still need to be addressed.



Aziza Ong'wasia & Paul Mwangi who are featured in the 'Nielimishe' Film

4. Engagement with the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC)



Students participate at an EACHRights-led community baraza at St. Stephen's Kirindo Mixed Secondary School in Mbita, Homa Bay County.

EACHRights led the development of a complementary report together with children's report that were submitted to the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACERWC) following the submission of the 2nd and 3rd periodic reports by the Government of Kenya.



EACHRights CEO, Dr. Judith Oloo, joins Togo delegates during the African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of Children (ACERWC) forum in Addis Ababa, 2019. Photo: Courtesy

We undertook this in partnership with Plan International, SOS Children's Villages - Kenya, Save the Children Kenya, and ChildFund Kenya. The report was considered in a pre-session during the 34th Ordinary session of the ACERWC in December 2019 in Cairo, Egypt where we led the delegation at the pre-session. Following this, the ACERWC published a list of issues which required the government's response. It is against this backdrop that the government submitted written replies on March 6th 2020.

The list of issues that were highlighted with regard to the right to education were low pre-primary enrolment, policy development challenges within the county, regional inequality and scarcity of teachers especially in rural hardship areas.

Other challenges included proliferation of low-fee private schools and lack of adequate regulation or enforcement of policy; the government's inadequate resources to establish and/or expand public schools; implementation of the school re-entry policy where expectant teenage girls are concerned; tracking of children who are out of school; illegal school fees; school titling and the protection of public school land.

EACHRights further took part in the Kenya review session with the ACERWC which was held in March 2020 and we are monitoring the publication of the concluding observations for continued advocacy.

5. Radio Talk Shows on Teenage Pregnancies and Child Labour in the wake of COVID-19 in Homa Bay County

EACHRights organised 4 radio talks to spur conversations on the increased cases of teenage pregnancies and child labour. The radio talks involved policy makers, parents, community mobilisers and teenagers. Period poverty and defilement came up as the main causes of teenage pregnancies during the shows.

In this engagement, teenagers revealed that some parents and caregivers had neglected their role in offering guidance to their children and further ensuring that they provide sanitary care packages to their daughters. The radio shows increased awareness on child rights violations, created awareness on teenage pregnancies and sensitized parents on how they can support and ensure school re-entry for pregnant and parenting teenagers is adhered to.

On child labour, the increased loss of income by parents and caregivers resulted to children engaging in fishing, sand harvesting, jiggery making and mining activities. The radio shows engaged Citizen Action Groups, policy makers, teenagers and parents to create awareness on child labour, child protection and the role parents play in ensuring children are not exposed to hazardous child labour and enjoy the right to education.



6. Conveners of the Right to Education Sub-Cluster Within the Universal Periodic Review (UPR)



EACHRights Trustee & Regional Director at Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Africa, Gilbert Onyango, takes conveners through a UPR 3rd cycle validation workshop.

Through the Education Support Programme, EACHRights convened the right to education sub-cluster within the Universal Periodic Review (UPR).

In 2019, ESP led the development and submission of two Universal Periodic Review (UPR) reports during Kenya's 3rd cycle review. The first report highlighted progress made and current challenges impacting the realization of the right to education for all children of Kenya while the second report focused on the privatisation of education in Kenya.

In response to submissions made, the Human Rights Council published draft recommendations of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review in January 2020. In regard to the right to education, the council broadly recommended broadly that Kenya takes measures to:

- Ensure access to inclusive, quality education for all especially for rural populations, refugees, asylum seekers and girls; continue to increase investment in education, and improve education
- Ensure adequate infrastructures and educational resources Review, adopt and implement relevant laws, policies & measures to promote inclusive education and redress the difficulties experienced by students with disabilities and special needs
- Continue efforts to address inequalities between men and women in education
- Ratify the Convention against Discrimination in education among other recommendations.



Presiding convener of Civil Society Reference Group (CSRG), Suba Churchill, participates during a Universal Periodic Review (UPR) validation exercise at PrideInn Hotel, Nairobi, Kenya.

7. Advocacy of Negative Impacts of Privatization of Education

We continue with our advocacy around the negative impacts of privatization of education in Kenya. For instance, we monitored the operations of a private education actor in Kenya by raising concerns on its operations with the Ministry of Education and donors. In 2018, EACHRights jointly submitted a complaint to the Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) with ten other complainants. The complaint outlines the various levels of harm inflicted on each complainant and how that contravenes the International Finance Corporation's (IFC's) Sustainability Policy and their 2012 Performance Standards, specifically standard 1, 2, and 4. The Compliance Advisor Ombudsman (CAO) is the independent accountability mechanism for the International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA). The CAO responds to complaints from project-affected communities with the goal of enhancing social and environmental outcomes on the ground. This process was successfully supported by our global partners namely: The Global Initiative for Economic Social and Cultural Rights (GI-ESCR), Oxfam International, Results Education Fund and Action Aid International who have extensive experience working around enhancing access to education and challenging privatisation at the global arena.

Additionally, there was a second and third complaint outlining an electrocution incident at the privately-owned school, which allegedly caused the death of one child and resulted in injury of another. The fourth complaint was on allegations of sexual abuse at that school, a complaint that was launched at the request of the Vice President of the CAO. The initial complaint is undergoing a compliance investigation while the two on the electrocution incident are set to undergo a dispute resolution in the coming months. The CAO process provides an opportunity to ensure greater transparency and accountability, which is crucial in reducing violations on the right to education by private actors in education. Through this, EACHRights will contribute towards supporting national efforts to achieve free, quality education for all.

8. Litigation

EACHRights played a pivotal role in Public Interest Litigation. For example, we took up the Sumbeiywo case, which was involving alleged 'land grabbing' of a public school property in Eldoret. We have been providing legal fees and we have also been offering technical expertise through consultation with the council for plaintiff and also by direct intervention through application to be enjoined as amicus. This feeds to our overall objective of enhancing access to quality education where continued grabbing of public schools' land threatens access to education.

This is what Watoto Wetu undertook within the ECOSOC Rights Advocacy.

1. National - Level Advocacy Against Harmful Cultural Practices

Kenya's human rights record was reviewed for the third time by the UN Human Rights Council on 23rd January, 2020. At the said review, Kenya accepted twenty-seven (27) recommendations made by peer states towards ending FGM and child marriage.



Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives from Marsabit county participate during our community dialogue guideline training at Jirime Hotel, Marsabit.

Following the recent adoption of these recommendations, EACHRights supported the Kenya Universal Periodic Review (UPR) Stakeholders Coalition to develop a harmonized Kenya UPR Stakeholders Coalition implementation plan. This was to ensure our government adapts the UPR implementation plan in the government’s implementation plan and address the recommendations. Some of the recommended priority action points on harmful cultural practices in the UPR plan include:

- Finalization, adoption and implementation of the draft national action plan for ending child marriage
- Formulation of an end child marriage policy
- Increase the resources allocated to the Anti-FGM Board for ending female genital mutilation

As an organization, we engaged a consultant to draft the Stakeholders Coalition implementation plan. The child rights implementation plan was submitted to the Office of the Attorney General & Department of Justice during a three-day workshop to develop the Government implementation matrix for the 3rd Cycle recommendations. Validation and government plan for implementation is underway.

2. Formulation of Marsabit Child Protection Policy

Since 2018, we have been partnering with the Marsabit County Government and other county based organizations towards the formulation of an integrated and all-inclusive child protection policy that will enable the county to enhance the protection of their children. Several policy consultative forums with stakeholders have taken place in various sub-counties during which views and recommendations on the key child protection issues have been collected to enrich the formulation of the child protection policy.



Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives from Marsabit county participate during our community dialogue guideline training at Jirime Hotel, Marsabit.

We engaged a consultant to analyze, interpret the data and facilitate the drafting of the Marsabit Child Policy. We await submission of the draft policy for validation by stakeholders, and subsequent hand over to the Marsabit County Government.

Strategic Pillar 2

Capacity Development/Systems Strengthening

These are the initiatives that Education Support Programme (ESP) undertook within the Capacity Development/ Systems Strengthening.

1. Training of County Education Networks (CENS) in Partnership with the Elimu Yetu Coalition

In partnership with Elimu Yetu Coalition, EACHRights was able to train seven CENs from Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Mandera, Laikipia, Bungoma, Homa Bay and Makeni counties. We trained them on Financial Management, Resource Mobilization, Advocacy, Leadership and Governance. Based on a capacity assessment that we previously undertook within the 47 CENS, we narrowed down to those counties as they had the highest potential to grow and develop tailored capacity building packages that match their needs.

The training was highly appreciated and the need to continuously build the capacity of CENs was noted for effective advocacy and community engagement in the different Counties. The findings from our engagement will inform capacity strengthening initiatives based on financial management & fundraising, leadership and governance and advocacy.

2. Capacity Development of Boards of Management (BOM) in Homa Bay County

We continuously undertake Board of Management (BOM) trainings for primary schools in Homa Bay County in partnership with the County Director of Education's office. This training seeks to sensitize members on the relevant legal frameworks, functions of BOM, principles of corporate governance, leadership and integrity, and a basic introduction to financial management and budgeting in schools. The schools learnt how to develop action plans that address the various challenges they face and subsequent interventions that they should implement for better running of the schools. So far, we have facilitated the training of BOMs in all primary schools in 3 sub-counties in Homa Bay county. New Boards of Management were inaugurated in early 2019 and therefore this process will ensure that BOMs understand their role and basic functions in regard to school management.



ESP Programme Manager, Margaret Wawira, interacts with Board of Management (BoM) members in Homa Bay county.

3. Citizen Action Groups (CAGs)



Citizen Action Group (CAG) representatives from Homa Bay county take part in a work plan review exercise.

EACHRights, through a participatory process, set up five social accountability working groups made up of Community-Based Organisations operating in Homa Bay County popularly referred to as Citizen Action Groups (CAGs). The main objectives were to facilitate or enhance collaborative work around the monitoring of education service delivery and evidence based advocacy as well as maximise available resources.

The thematic areas we prioritized are child labour; teenage pregnancies; poor student performance and absenteeism; low capacity of BOMs; under-enrolment of students and drop outs.

Through the CAG engagements, we trained 21 school officials in Rangwe, Ndhiwa and Homa Bay town. We also held meetings with school heads concerning the realization of efficient, effective and accountable Boards of Management (BOMs).

Further, the CAGs trained 250 agents of change to curb teenage pregnancies in their sub-counties and held talks with organized groups that include youth on safe sex and sexual health. These talks were held in conjunction with parents and community members through *barazas* to create awareness on child labour and issues influencing low student enrollment in schools.



Citizen Action Groups (CAGs) convened at Cool Springs Hotel, Homa Bay County to account for the implementation plans they had committed to.

4. Community Engagement and Empowerment

EACHRights through the Education Support Programme has an extensive community engagement model through which annual community engagements (Public *Barazas*) are held with parents, students, community leaders, teachers, BOMs, CSOs, Ministry of Education (MoE) and policy makers from various sub-counties. The *barazas* facilitate discussions on the status of access to education.

In February 2020, we conducted two public *barazas* in Rangwe and Ndiwa sub-counties. The public forums sought to sensitize the community on the right to education and better help us understand the challenges faced in accessing the same. The *baraza* was instrumental in understanding government efforts and plans to improve the status of education in those sub-counties.

Through the forums, parents highlighted challenges such as teenage pregnancy, continued levying fees at public schools, child labour, poor infrastructure in schools and reduced number of schools in the area. Students also noted that the inadequate number of textbooks and teachers in their schools was an aspect that interfered with the quality of education.

The Ministry of Education (MoE) officials stressed that the government is aware of the mentioned challenges and assured members of the community that plans to improve the infrastructure in schools and employ more teachers are underway.



Student representatives and members of the community participate during an EACHRights-led community baraza on education at St.Stephen's Kirindo Mixed School in Homa Bay County. The barazas seek to build the capacity of stakeholders on the Right to Education.

5. Human Rights Defenders Training

In conjunction with Shule Yangu Alliance, EACHRights held a human rights defenders training on the protection of public schools in Kisumu County. The programme focused on sensitizing participants on the need for protecting public-school land; the Legal and Institutional Framework; the roles and mandates of the Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC) and the National Land Commission in regard to securing or protecting public school land in Kenya.

The participants we engaged were drawn both from EACHRights Citizen Action Groups as well as other human rights defenders from Kisumu and Vihiga Counties. We also provided each participant with the Handbook for School Land Defenders from which there were various resources they could refer back to if they needed to submit further complaints.

These are the initiatives that Watoto Wetu undertook within the Capacity Development/Systems Strengthening.

1. Marsabit County Community Dialogue Guidelines Training Workshops

One of the ways through which EACHRights has been able to advocate against Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) is through community dialogue training. The guidelines for conducting community dialogues were developed in the year 2018 by the Anti-FGM Board under the Prohibition of Female Genital Mutilation Act 2011 to regulate dialogue in communities that practice FGM. The guidelines were developed to be used by all agencies and individuals who are involved in the campaign against FGM at the community level.

Community dialogue adopts a participatory approach and allows all members within a community context to share their beliefs, myths, fears and misconceptions about FGM. These guidelines serve to correct assumptions that community members may have. It is against this background that we facilitated two training workshops in Marsabit and Moyale.

The trainings were attended by participants drawn from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), National County Government agencies (duty bearers), religious leaders, Marsabit-based community groups and NGOs. Both forums were facilitated by Ms Pauline M Gathanga, Program Manager, Kenya Women and Children Wellness Centre.

The trainings had a positive outcome as the analysis of pre & post test results revealed an increase in knowledge on FGM concepts, legal frameworks, effective dialogue and facilitation. There is need to expand the trainings on dialogue guidelines to other Sub-Counties within Marsabit County to ensure that more facilitators are equipped with the right skills and knowledge in guiding discussions on ending FGM and child marriage.



CSO representatives from Marsabit County participate during a Anti-FGM community dialogue training at Holale Hotel and Resort, Moyale Town.

2. Garissa Gender Technical Working Group Training Workshop on Gender Mainstreaming

The Garissa County Gender Technical Working Group (TWG) was established in 11th July 2018 as a county coordinating body to strengthen and enhance the efforts of stakeholders in addressing gender issues with a specific focus in eliminating gender-based violence in all its forms in Garissa County.

It is against the above backdrop that the Gender TWG members through the office of County Executive Committee Members (CECM) of the Gender and Social Services Department requested EACHRights to build their capacity on gender mainstreaming and gender responsive budgeting. The intention of the capacity building exercise was to increase inclusion and mainstreaming of needs of vulnerable groups in the county government development plans.

The workshop took place in Garissa County was facilitated by Ms. Pauline M Gathanga, (Program Manager, Kenya Women and Children Wellness Centre), Mohamed Khalif (Garissa Civil Society Network) and Ibrahim Abdiwahab (National Gender & Equality Commission).

Participants were members of the Gender TWG drawn from state and non-state actors in Garissa County among them County government, MOH, National Gender and Equality Commission, State Department of Gender Affairs, Womankind Kenya, Anglican Development Services, Women for education, and Health development among others.

Thirty Gender TWG members benefited from our two-day training. Garissa's Deputy County Commissioner, Mr. Bernard Ole Kipury and County Executive Committee Member (CECM) Gender, Culture and Social Service Department Hon. Zeinab Digale participated in the gender mainstreaming exercise.



Members of the Garissa Technical Working Group (TWG) take part during the gender budgeting and mainstreaming capacity building workshop at Lantern Resort, Garissa. (Standing: Workshop facilitator, Ms. Pauline Gathanga of Kenya Women and Children Wellness Centre)

Strategic Pillar 3 Research and Knowledge Management

This is what Educational Support Programme (ESP) undertook within the Research and Knowledge Management.

1. Research on the Quality Assurance and Standards Function of the Ministry of Education (MoE)

We conducted a countrywide research on the quality assurance function to explore how quality assurance within the context of education is affected in Kenya, and how various stakeholders in education can interact to ensure quality standards are maintained.

This research was managed by EACHRights and it resulted in important findings that outlined the internal and external quality assurance structures, and how they work synergistically, especially in a setting where the Kenyan quality assurance directorate strains due to resource unavailability or is limited from a human resource perspective. The research outlined the challenges faced by the quality assurance officers as well as community involvement in quality assurance and the role of political figures. We further conducted a process evaluation to assess the efficiency and effectiveness of the current quality assurance assessment processes, its design and the overriding approach to quality assessment of basic education institutions, in order to determine how the design and implementation of these processes can be improved.

As the think tank of all child rights matters in the East African region, we have set the groundwork for continued meaningful research. We expect that the findings of this research will allow for further engagement with the quality assurance directorate and relevant stakeholders. In addition to that, we hope that the research outcomes will further inform advocacy around enhancing the effectiveness of the quality assurance function to ensure the Ministry of Education (MoE) deliver on their mandate.

2. School Mapping To Strengthen Governance Interventions

As part of strengthening school governance interventions, EACHRights reviewed the national systems in place for school governance. The mapping of school governance programs involved identifying all stakeholders/ parties involved in strengthening BOMs across the country/region.

We presented findings in contrast to the implementation of Kenya's second national sector education plan (NESP II 2018-2022). The findings from this study are influential as they will trigger a necessary conversation with our Kenyan government on how the strengthening of school governance structures can be better institutionalized, and how learnings by different stakeholders on the issue can be better consolidated and disseminated.

3. Rapid Assessments on Teenage Pregnancies and Child Labour in Homa Bay County in the wake of Covid-19

In the wake of Covid-19 in 2020 and the subsequent indefinite closure of schools by the government, children were forced to stay at home. It is in this context that media reports exposed the spike in teenage pregnancy cases across the country. Homa Bay ranked second with 5,932 teenage pregnancy cases. As intervention measure, EACHRights carried out a rapid assessment which proved to be instrumental in providing reliable data on the teenage pregnancy and child labour matters.

The findings of the assessment contributed to our #TunzaWatotoWetu Campaign, and will be used for policy advocacy to ensure that pregnant and parenting teenagers have access to the right to education and receive the necessary support to continue with their education.

The following are the activities Watoto Wetu carried out within Research and Knowledge Management.

The activities under this pillar were centered around media engagement. We reached out to thousands of viewers through documentaries and feature stories that aired on mainstream broadcast media channels in Kenya. The overriding themes were on Anti-FGM (Female Genital Mutilation) initiatives and ending child marriages.

1. Radio Talk Shows in Garissa

EACHRights facilitated 5 radio talk shows on Warsan FM, Garissa in 2020 and among the range of issues discussed included: an overview of Gender-Based Violence (GBV); occurrence of GBV in Garissa county amid the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through this discourse, implications of GBV on psychosocial development and security, health, education, livelihoods among other aspects were also discussed. We further engaged listeners on the legal framework that addresses harmful cultural practices in Kenya.



2. Radio Talk Shows in Marsabit

Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and child marriage are prevalent in Marsabit County. We partnered with IBSE FM to create awareness on the need to shun these two vices that also contravene human rights. Various panelists and experts joined us during the 5 radio talk shows we aired to address the following thematic issues;

- Legal frameworks regarding harmful cultural practices and child rights and National Policy to eradicate FGM 2019
- Common Retrogressive Cultural Practices in Marsabit County
- Overview of GBV, Implication of GBV through Religion perspectives
- FGM and traditional leadership system declaration and implementation



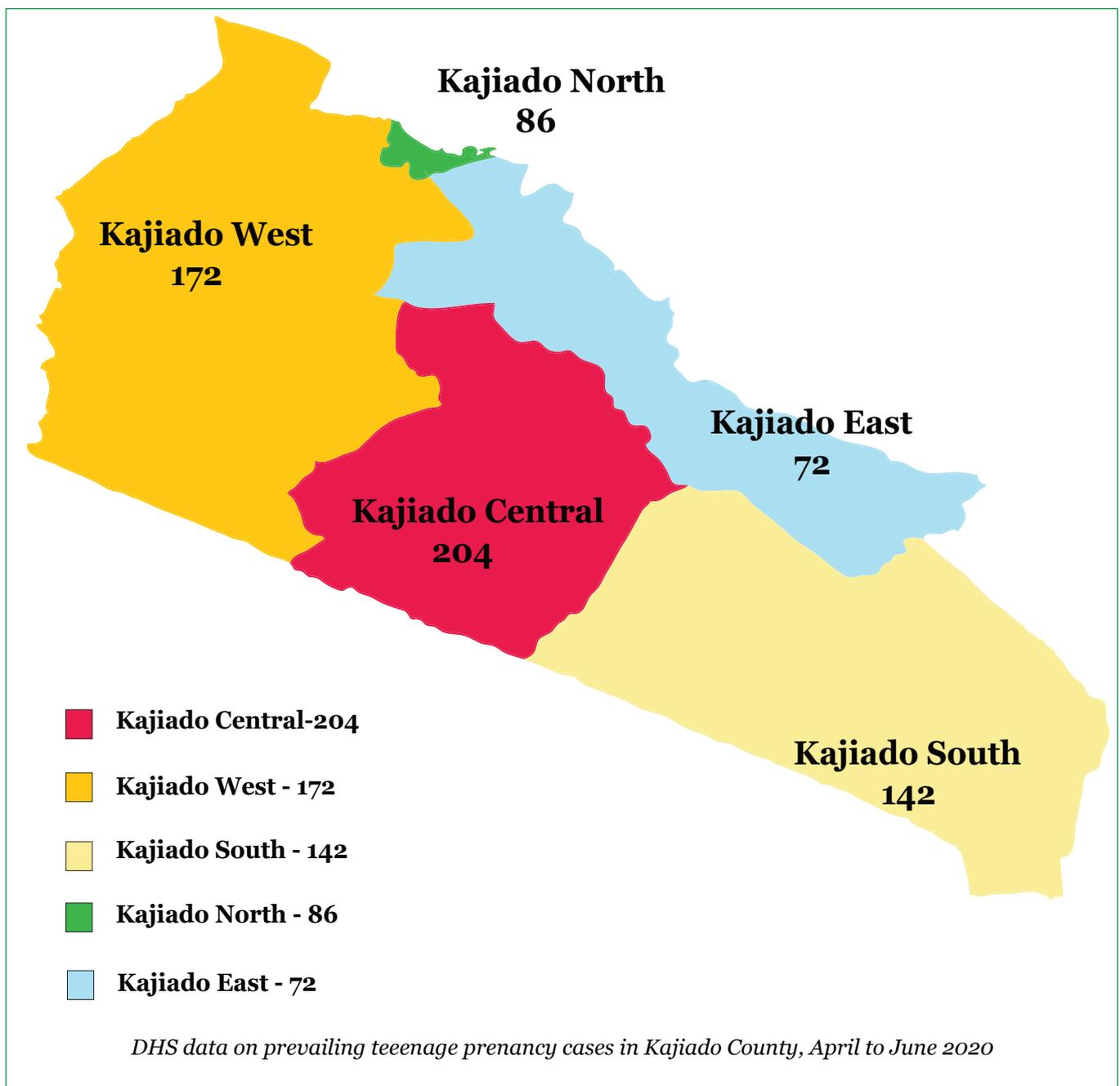
Watoto Wetu Programme Manager, Marcelino Thuku and Marsabit County Coordinator Children Services, Mr. Simeon Ogao discuss Anti-FGM issues at IBSE FM Radio Station in Garissa County.

3. Tunza Watoto Wetu Media Advocacy Campaign

EACHRights in partnership with the Standard Media Group carried out the ‘Tunza Watoto Wetu’ media campaign in October 2020 on the KTN News Front Row Virtual Forum, Radio Maisha and Spice FM. The campaign focused on the effect of the Covid-19 pandemic on child rights violations in Kenya (e.g. teenage pregnancies, child marriage, Female Genital Mutilation) with verifiable evidence from Kajiado and Homabay counties.

Panelists drawn from these two counties were interviewed on KTN News, Radio Maisha and Spice FM. They shared evidence generated from their counties regarding the status of teenage pregnancies, child marriage and related child rights violations during the COVID-19 pandemic period and their interventions towards mitigating the same.

Information generated from Kajiado County revealed that from April 2020 to June 2020, the department of Gender in Kajiado in collaboration with the Ministry of Interior through the County Commissioner collected data using the chiefs, village elders and Nyumba Kumi representatives to verify the DHS data on the prevailing situations pertaining to teenage pregnancies.



Panelists' say on #TunzaWatotoWetu

“

Kajiado County Government has empowered 40 men to be able to know what is expected of them in the society especially with regard to respecting the decisions by girls, enough to understand that NO means NO! When men own the truth about the choices women make about their reproductive health, the objectives of #TunzaWatotoWetu will be achieved collaboratively. Men have a role to play in stopping teenage pregnancies.

Her Excellency Edna Lenku
First Lady, Kajiado County Government

”

“

The Kenyan judicial system is sure at work. However, there is a disconnect between what is happening on the ground and the ideal situation. People know that laws protecting children exist, but they don't pursue the full course of the law. As a result, children as victims of human rights violations don't find recourse.

Dr. Judith Oloo
CEO, EACHRights

”

“

The Kenyan government has not given children access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive health information that is relevant to their development. Our Kenyan education system should provide age-appropriate information to empower our children about their sexual and reproductive health rights.

Martin Onyango
Advocate and Senior Legal Advisor
Center for Reproductive Health Rights

”

“

As Homa Bay County we are working with different stakeholders to ensure pregnant girls are able to resume school. The National School Health Policy as provided by the Ministry of Education allows teenage mothers to continue with education.

Kennedy Oroba
Chairperson, Homa Bay County Education Network (HOCEN)

”

“

116 is a free hotline number that children can call to report and seek help on issues affecting their rights.

Peter Kutere
County Co-ordinator Children Services, Homa Bay County

”

Strategic Pillar 4 Partnership Development

These are activities Education Support Programme (ESP) undertook within the Partnership Development.

6

Key partnerships we developed and sustained



1. Partnership with the National Council for Nomadic Education in Kenya (NACONEK)

Through our partnership with NACONEK, we conducted a mapping of Alternative Provision of Basic Education Training (APBET) schools in Nairobi County. NACONEK is a semi-autonomous government agency in the Ministry of Education. The council provides a comprehensive framework to facilitate the achievement of education for all in nomadic counties in Kenya.

The research was aimed at providing an overall understanding of the quality of education that learners attending APBET schools receive and challenges that hinder them from accessing quality education. This partnership facilitated the development and launch of the Low-Cost Boarding School (LCBS) report and the APBET Mapping report. These key reports will continue to provide evidence for policy action and further shed light on action areas that various stakeholders (both state and non-state actors) in the policy space need to consider.

One of the action areas from these reports is the design of remedial strategies that would enable all children of school-going age to access basic education, (which is free and compulsory in Kenya) in order to achieve progress in education, especially for APBET learners in Arid and Semi-Arid Land (ASAL) & marginalized areas.

The report findings, which were launched towards the end of last year have been and will be instrumental in providing insights into the regulation and management of APBET schools alongside policy discussions on the current situation of these schools.

2. Privatisation of Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC)

The Privatisation of Education and Human Rights Consortium (PEHRC) is an informal network comprising national, regional, global organisations and individuals who advocate against privatisation of education. The consortium continuously responds to the challenges posed by privatisation on the right to education across the globe.

Through our partnership, we have been able to defend & promote human rights, particularly the right to education; promoted the humanistic nature of education as a means to achieve both personal and collective realization; advocated for the provision of free quality public education for all without discrimination and promoted social justice and cohesion through education.

3. Urban Education Group (UEG)

The Urban Education Group brings together stakeholders working on advocacy for access to education for children in urban informal settlements. Our partnership with UEG has been instrumental in the continued policy-level advocacy for children to access quality education in urban informal settlements. For instance, we have pushed our agenda around advocacy for regulation of private actors in education.

Our key achievement has been the joint reviewed the Draft Sessional Paper No. 1 of 2019, 'A Policy Framework for Reforming Education, Training and Research for Sustainable Development in Kenya' (hereinafter referred to Sessional Paper), identifying gaps and areas that need to be addressed.

4. Homa Bay County Education Network (HOCEN) and Community-Based Organisations

Homa Bay County is among the counties in which teenage pregnancies and school drop outs school are prevalent. It is against this backdrop that we carried out a rapid assessment on the rise of teenage pregnancies and child labour in the wake of Covid-19. Our involvement has grown into a partnership that will continue to uplift the community. HOCEN has enabled us to have a closer connection with the community. It has facilitated community barazas with a view of enlightening all stakeholders (including children) on the Right to Education so that they can use the information to demand positive change in the education space.

5. Shule Yangu Alliance (SYA)

EACHRights sits in the Inter-Ministerial Legal Working Group (IMLWG) by virtue of being a member of SYA. The group was set up to complement the work by the Multi-Agency Taskforce on Public School Land Titling. The 2018 gazette notice on titling of public school land in Kenya was informed by the presidential directive on the issue of titling, following the attempted grabbing of Langata Road Primary School playground in 2015. We have partnered with the alliance on various strategic litigation and joint advocacy activities against grabbing of public-school land by private developers. This feeds directly into our work around advocacy on access to education by protecting public school land. It further accords us the opportunity to contribute to policy discussions around issuing of title deeds to schools through the IMLWG. Together we published the Handbook on Public School Land Defenders, which remains to be our key achievement

6. Regional Educational Learning Initiative (RELI)

RELI is a member-driven network of education actors across East Africa that seeks to generate knowledge, evidence and collaborations that transform member organisations and influence policy. It aims to build a strong, indigenous knowledge hub to influence education locally, regionally and globally. RELI has extensive partnerships with various government agencies, and convening power amongst local and regional education stakeholders. Being a member, EACHRight has partnered with RELI to jointly conduct research. An example of this is the mapping of policies on equity and inclusion in the region, which contributes to our advocacy goal and spurs policy discussions in the region through evidence-based advocacy. Through the RELI Kenya equity and inclusion group, we have worked with Mzalendo, a non-partisan entity that keeps an eye on Kenyan Parliament with a mission to facilitate public participation in Parliamentary process. Together with Mzalendo, we conducted research on the parliament's legacy regarding protecting, promoting and fulfilling the right to education. This partnership has enabled EACHRights has keep an eye on upcoming Bills and contribute to policy formulation in regards to the Right to Education.

STRATEGIC PILLAR 5

Institutional Development

Components of our Institutional Development Pillar



1. Human Resource & Governance Development

One of our strategic objectives of the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan is to ensure institutional strengthening through Human Resource & Governance Development. Accordingly, a Human Resource (HR) audit was carried out to inform the development of our Human Resource (HR) system. The audit included a skills & board performance evaluation, development of capacity building plan and development of profiles for all roles.

2. Resource Mobilization & Investment

This component includes Strategy development, Donor Mapping and Social enterprise. Donor mapping speaks to diversification of our resource database. The latter, is with a view to establish a long-term investment policy/framework for our organization.

3. Marketing and Communication

In partnership with Well Made Strategy, we are finalizing our communications strategy which will be aligned to our 2019-2023 Strategic Plan.

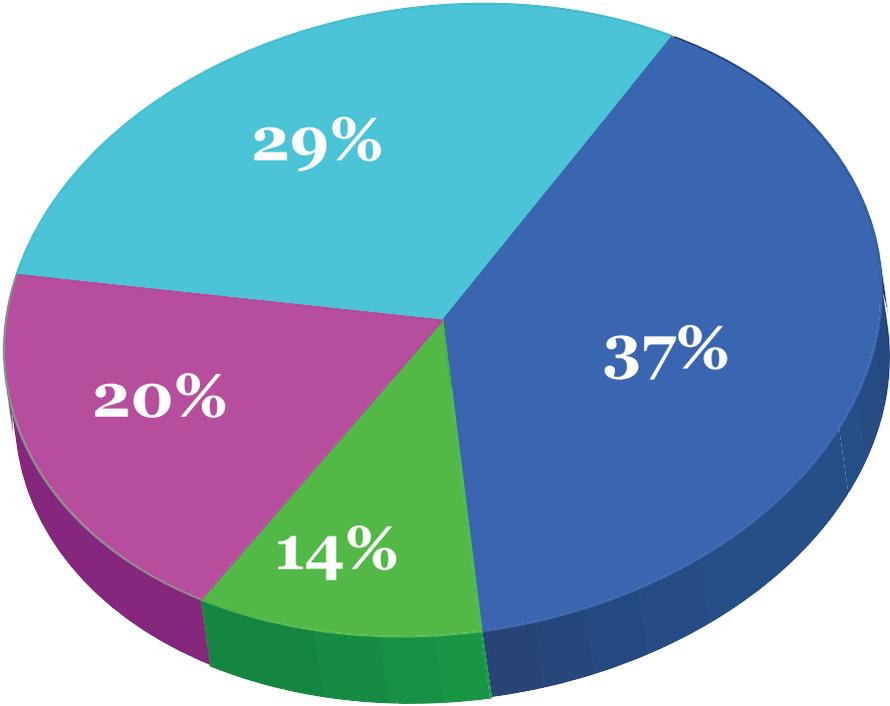
4. Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Research and Learning (MEARL) Framework & Strategy

We developed an organizational Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability, Research and Learning (MEARL) strategy and framework that is aligned to our strategic plan 2019-2023. We achieved this by setting appropriate targets and developing performance indicators for collecting information. The MEARL strategy and framework also plays a strategic role in enhancing the quality of our work across projects.

5. Internal Systems, Policies and Structures

We have a strong Finance policy, Human Resource policy, Advocacy Strategy and Toolkit, Staff Code of Conduct and a Board Manual in place.

Percentage Distribution of Programmatic Activities Across The Pillars



-  **ECOSOC Rights Advocacy**
-  **Capacity Development/Systems Strengthening**
-  **Research & Knowledge Management**
-  **Partnership Development**

Our Donors & Partners

ERIKS

DEVELOPMENT PARTNER



UNIVERSITY of STIRLING



OPEN SOCIETY FOUNDATIONS



The Global Initiative
for Economic, Social and Cultural Rights



KENYA PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS ON SDGS AND BUSINESS

EACRN

The Eastern Africa Child Rights Network



TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL KENYA



African Population and Health Research Center



RELI

Regional Educational Learning Initiative



NACONEK
NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR NOMADIC EDUCATION IN KENYA



GIRLS NOT BRIDES KENYA

The Kenyan Partnership to End Child Marriage

HOCEN



elimu ni haki yetu



Elimu Yetu Coalition



Protect | Title | Own

We extend an invitation to more donors and partners so that we can collaborate and build meaningful partnerships that will benefit the marginalised, especially children.

Pictorial



Students drawn from various secondary schools in Homa Bay County participate during an Education Support Programme (ESP)-led community baraza at St. Stephen's Kirindo Mixed Secondary School in Mbita.



Senator Mutula Kilonzo Jr. joins EACHRights' Trustee, CEO, board members & staff to celebrate the launch of EACHRights 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan. Photo: Courtesy



Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR) Vice Chair, George Morara, receives a token of appreciation from Dr. Judith Oloo in his capacity as a partner and friend of EACHRights. Photo: Courtesy



Senator Mutula Kilonzo Jr. joins our board member, Florence Annan Waka & CEO, Dr. Judith Oloo during a cake cutting session at the launch of our 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan. Photo: Courtesy



From L-R: Senators James Orengo, Mutula Kilonzo Jr. and Dr. Judith Oloo during a senate committee discussion on legal affairs. EACHRights had been invited by the senate committee to make a contribution on the Preservation of Human Dignity & Enforcement of Economic Social Rights Bill. Photo: Courtesy



Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives engage in Anti-FGM discussions during various forums organized by Watoto Wetu Programme in Marsabit & Garissa counties.



Civil Society Organization (CSO) representatives participate during a training on community dialogue guidelines against Anti-FGM. This Watoto Wetu-led training was facilitated by Pauline Mumbi (standing) of Kenya Women & Children's Wellness Centre (KWCWC).



Homa Bay County Education Network (HOCEN) Chairperson and activist, Kennedy Oyier, engages in a discussion during a validation exercise with Citizen Action Groups (CAGs).



Community liaisons listen attentively during an Education Support Programme (ESP) - led training on human rights.



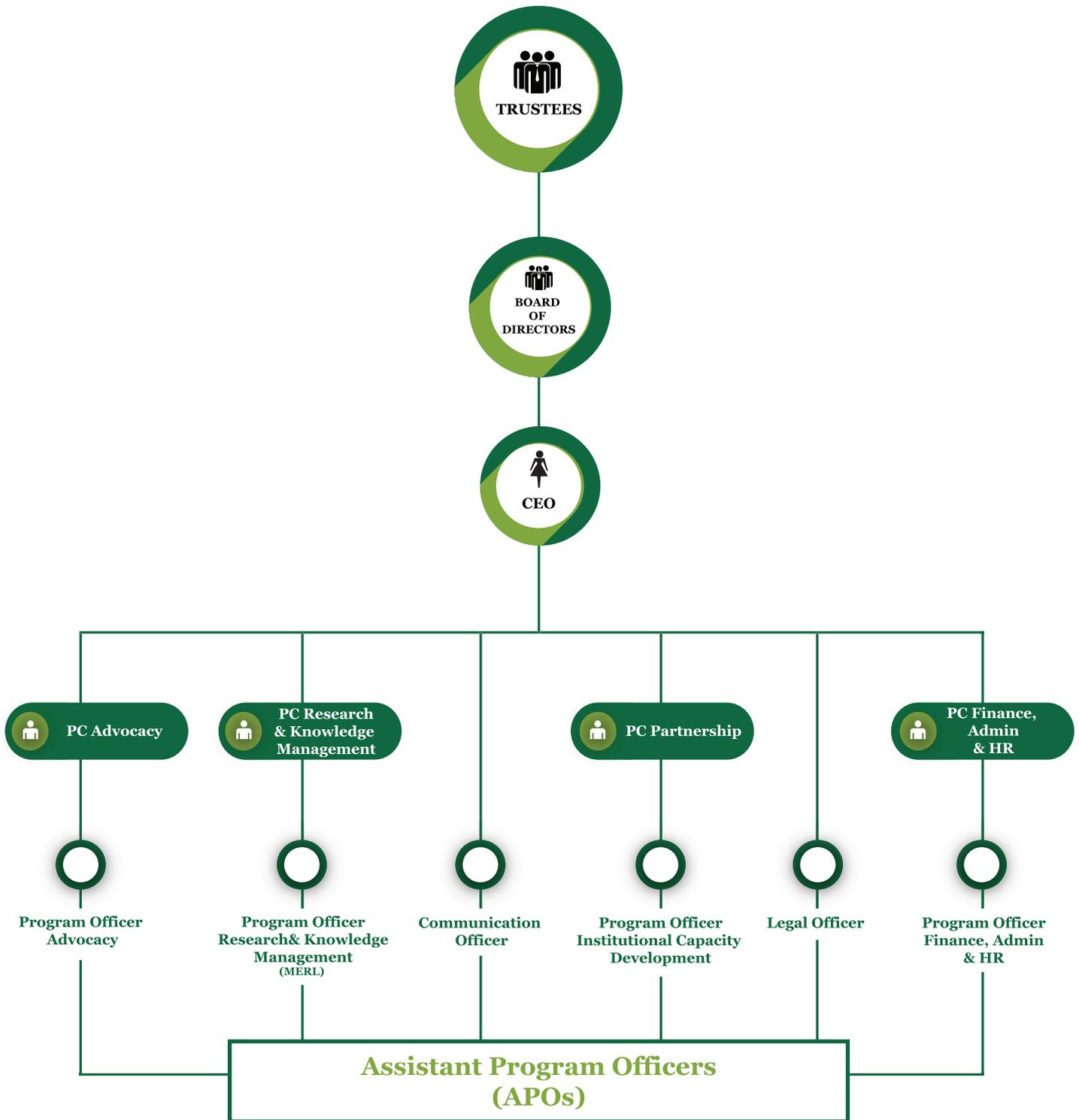
Students from Senator Otieno Kajwang High School in Homa Bay County participate during an education community baraza led by our Education Support Programme (ESP) at St. Stephen's Kirindo Mixed Secondary School in Mbita.



EACRights staff enjoy a light moment during our 2019 staff retreat at Lukenya Getaway Resort. Photo: Courtesy

Our Organogram

As per the 2019 - 2023 Strategic Plan



* PC: Program Co-ordinator

We are currently transitioning into the organogram structure as per our Strategic Plan

Board of Directors



Mr. Gilbert Onyango

EACHRights Trustee, Founder & Member of The Board

Mr. Gilbert Onyango is the Founder and a member of the Board of Trustees and Board of Directors of EACHRights. He started his NGO career in 2002 when he joined The CRADLE-The Children's Foundation as an intern and over the years rose to the position of Deputy Director. Between June and December 2010, he worked as Regional Deputy Director for the Canadian Bar Association's Strengthening Access to Justice in Eastern Africa (SAJEA) Programme in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania. He served as Regional Director of EACHRights from December 2010 to May 2015. Presently, he works as the Regional Director for Africa at UPR *Info* Africa. He is also a member of the Board of Directors at ICS-SPAfrica.

Mr. Onyango graduated in 1999 with an LL.B Degree from Dr. BAM University, Aurangabad, India and was admitted to the Kenyan Bar in 2002. He is an advocate of the High Court of Kenya, Commissioner for Oaths and Notary Public. In 2008, Gilbert graduated from the United States International University, Africa (USIU-A) with a Master's of Science (M.Sc.) Degree in Management and Organisational Development. In 2012, Gilbert graduated with a Masters of Arts (M.A.) Degree in Development Studies with major in Human Rights, Development and Social Justice from the International Institute of Social Studies (ISS) of Erasmus University, Rotterdam. He has attended numerous professional development courses both locally and internationally in child rights, human rights, law, development, strategic planning and management, human resource management, project evaluation and grant making.



Isaack Okero Otieno

EACHRights Board Chairperson

Okero Otieno is a Democratic Governance, Applied Public Policy, Elections, Development and Human Rights expert with over 20 years experience working with State, Non-State, Academic, Donor Organizations as well as Think Tanks in more than 15 sub-Saharan African Countries. Okero Otieno also offers technical and policy support to Regional Governance Non-State Actors. Mr. Otieno has many years of experience in designing, implementing, monitoring and evaluating Democratic Governance Projects and Programmes. He previously served as Project Manager for UNDP-Kenya Office, Chief of Party with the Kenya

Government's Ministry of Justice and Constitution Affairs in the Affairs in the countrywide Kenya National Integrated Constitutional Civic Education Programme (2011-2013), Country Director with the International Development Law Organization and currently a consultant in Governance, Development and Human rights. He also served as the Head of Governance and Corruption Unit with the Institute for Security Studies, South Africa (2010); Director Democratic Governance Fund-CIDA (2007-2009); Deputy Executive Director and Head of Programmes with the Institute for Education in Democracy (2005-2007; University academic in Kenya (2000-2004). Mr. Otieno holds a Master of Arts degree in olitical Science from Central European University, Budapest-Hungary; a Master of Arts degree in Development Studies from the International Institute for Social Studies, The Hague-Netherlands, and Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and Bachelor of Laws from the University of Nairobi, Kenya. Additionally, he has undertaken several relevant courses in the subjects of Humanrights, Results-Based Management, Programmed/Project Management, Money and Politics, Public Finance Management Reforms and Anti Corruption. He has published a Chapter in a widely referenced book on Governance and written several online articles and op-eds.



Florence Annan Waka
EACHRights Board Member

Florence Annan Waka is the Founder and Director of Lead Practice, a leadership, governance and strategy consultancy firm that provides technical advisory, public policy and information knowledge services to clients in the public, civic and private sectors. In the past 15 years, she has worked in the Gender, Education and Child Rights sector serving at different senior management capacities including the National Campaign Manager of the Shule Yangu Alliance, an Alliance that brings together various stakeholders from the civic, government and private sector on the protection and titling of public school land in Kenya.

She has also served as the Deputy Director of the Girl Child Network. In her line of work, Florence has been involved in the successful lobbying of various legal frameworks on Gender, Education and Public Land Management such as The Guidelines on the Application process of Public School Title Deeds (2016), The Protection Against Domestic Violence Act (2015), The Teachers Service Commission Act (2012), The Basic Education Act (2013), review of the Gender Policy in Education (2007) and the Children Bill. This includes coordinating the National Sanitary Towel Campaign that was eventually adopted by the Ministry of Education as part of the Free Primary Education program and recently assented into law by the President.

She also recently spearheaded the National Working Group on the School Titling Program that effects the Presidential Directive of 2015 to have all public learning institutions titled and protected. The program is now a fully-fledged Government program within the Ministry of Lands, Ministry of Education and National Land Commission. Florence Annan currently serves as a Board Member of various organizations including EACHRights and the Sports Development Trust. She also sits in the Nyandarua County Government Land Taskforce.

Julie Mukami Kubai
EACHRights Board Member



Julie Mukami is an Auditor working with the Office of the Auditor-General. Prior to OAG, she worked with the Kenya Trade Network Agency (KENTRADE) as a Trade Facilitator. She was involved in the development, testing and roll-out of part of the Kenya Single Window System (KESWS) and played a support role of the same in its live environment.

Mukami holds a Master of Arts Degree in International Relations from the University of Nairobi, and a Bachelor of Science in Hospitality Management from Strathmore University. She has about 5 years of work experience, 3 of which are in Human Resource within the Office of the Auditor General (OAG).

Mukami's expertise is instrumental in providing strategic direction on Human Resource for EACHRights.



Christine Alai
EACHRights Board Member

Christine Alai is a Kenyan human rights lawyer with over 14 years' experience dedicated to the advancement of equality, non-discrimination and access to justice for gross human rights violations and atrocity crimes.

Alai has led and contributed to innovative research, strategic impact litigation, legislation and policy development, advocacy and capacity building initiatives to advance human rights and transitional justice processes in Kenya, South Sudan and other parts of East and Central Africa.

Alai has supported and led the advancement of the vision of several renowned national and international human rights organizations including Physicians for Human Rights, International Centre for Transitional Justice, Kenya Human Rights Commission, and Kenya National Commission on Human Rights, among others. Alai is presently the Transitional Justice Advisor to the UN Commission on Human Rights in South Sudan.

Alai is also a co-founder of Utu Wetu, a firm that focuses on enhancing survivor-centred implementation of human right-based norms to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violations (SGBV) against women and girls in Africa.

Alai was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya. She holds a Master of Laws Degree (LL.M.) in International Legal Studies from Georgetown University, in Washington D.C. USA; Bachelor of Laws Degree (LL.B.) from the University of Nairobi, Kenya; and Post Graduate Diploma in Law from the Kenya School of Law. She is also a member of the Law Society of Kenya, East African Law Society and International Commission of Jurists-Kenya Chapter.

Senior Management Team



Dr. Judith Oloo
Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Dr. Oloo is an expert in human rights law.

Her experience in the practice of law and academia spans over 10 years, having worked at a number of universities including the Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), where she headed the Department of Private Law. At the time of her appointment as the CEO of EACHRights, she was a lecturer at the Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology (JKUAT) heading the Department of Public Law.

She is passionate about human and child rights. Over time, she has become an influencer in various ECOSOC rights with a bias to public interest matters. The influencer aspect is evident through the publication of opinion articles in the national dailies and discussion on human rights issues in mainstream Kenyan media stations.

Oloo holds a Bachelor of Academic Law (BAL) (2005), Bachelor of Laws (LL. B) (2007) and Master of Laws (LL.M.) in 2009 from the University of Mysore. She was admitted as an Advocate of the High Court of Kenya in 2012. In 2017, she got her Doctorate (Ph.D. in Laws) at the St. Augustine University of Tanzania (SAUT), majoring in International Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law.

EACHRights has seen tremendous growth including the passing of the Strategic Plan, institutional policy strengthening, robust programming, financial growth, staff capacity development and visibility of the EACHRights' brand since she took over as the CEO in 2018.

Dr. Oloo can be reached at
judith@eachrights.or.ke



Martin Rogers Otieno
Finance & Admin Manager

Martin is the Finance & Operations Manager at EACHRights.

He has worked in various sectors including banking, educational institutions, manufacturing and Not-for-Profit Organizations for the last fourteen years. He holds a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Kenya College of Accountancy (KCA) University and is a Certified Public Accountant (CPA-Kenya).

Martin has brought to the organization vast experience in financial management, quality control and project management, flow forecasting skills, budgeting & cash skills.

He has managed the finance function and oversees the finance team. Martin has also delivered on accurate donor reports in compliance with Grant Agreement requirements, assesses organizational financial performance, identifies and implements revenue and cost reduction improvements, prepares management reports regularly, highlights any exceptions for prompt action and reviews bank reconciliations on a monthly and timely basis.

Martin also supports program/project staff to prepare budgets. He also provides timely financial monitoring information to help take corrective actions where variances occur.

He has continuously steered the finance docket through best practices while embracing the latest financial technologies.

Martin can be reached at
martin@eachrights.or.ke



Marcelino Thuku
Program Manager, Watoto Wetu

Marcelino is a community development professional with over 15 years of experience.

He has specialized in human rights and peace building projects in Kenya through advocacy on land & labour rights, transitional justice, devolution, gender equality, prevention of Gender-Based Violence and harmful cultural practices.

During his tenure at the Mombasa Catholic Justice and Peace Commission (MCJPC), Marcelino successfully mediated between the Kamba and Maasai communities who were feuding over River Njukini water resources in Taveta sub county. He achieved this under the USAID-funded Kilifi-Taveta peace building project.

He graduated from the University of Nairobi with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Anthropology and has also benefitted from extensive training in Monitoring, Evaluation, Reporting and Learning (MERL), data quality management, resource mobilization, peace building, conflict management and finance & grants management.

Marcelino's vast geographical scope of work is also evident, having implemented projects in urban informal settlements of Nairobi, Garissa, Kajiado, Kilifi, Kwale, Lamu, Marsabit, Mombasa, Taita Taveta, Turkana, Uasin Gishu counties.

Marcelino can be reached at
marcelino@eachrights.or.ke



Margaret Wawira
Program Manager,
Education Support Programme (ESP)

Margaret holds a Master of Arts (MA) degree in International Relations and a Bachelor of Arts degree from United States International University – Africa.

Her expertise hinges on Project Management and she has over 6 years' worth of experience in the Human Rights and Child Rights advocacy sector-a sector that she has a great passion towards.

Margaret's professional bias leans towards impactful development, and empowering communities to effectively participate in decisions that have a direct impact on children and to demand for their rights.

She brings to the organization vast experience and skills in advocacy, policy influencing, children's rights, right to education for marginalized communities, research, project implementation, capacity development, communications and community development.

Margaret joined EACHRights in 2015 as an intern. Through her expertise, dedication and the synergy that her skills bring to ESP and the organization in general, Margaret has risen through the ranks to attain a managerial position.

Margaret can be reached at
margaret@eachrights.or.ke



OUR CORE VALUES

Respect for Human Rights

Commitment to Social Justice

Integrity and Transparency

Professionalism

Accountability

Non-partisan

People-focused

Let's keep the conversations going!

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