



## **SDGs KENYA FORUM** For Sustainable Development

### **Leave No One Behind Community Dialogues**

**Date:** Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, 2016

**Location:** Nakuru County - Kivumbuni ward

**Venue:** St. Ambrose Catholic church

**Theme:** Implementing SDGs with Local Communities at the Centre

### **REPORT - Leave No One Behind Community Dialogue with CARITAS Kenya in Nakuru County**

In Nakuru county, Caritas Kenya (in partnership with Caritas Nakuru) was the lead organization with coordination and mobilization of community members.

#### **Background.**

The SDG Kenya Forum is CSO platform that has taken on the mandate to mobilize non-government stakeholders to support the implementation process of the SDGs in Kenya. The Platform provides space for a more structured and coordinated CSO engagement with government both at national and local levels in support of effective and efficient implementation 2030 Agenda for SDG: sharing concrete suggestions for implementation of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and strategies for involving the media and private sector. The forum aims at Strengthened CSO and government collaboration on implementation of the Kenya national vision2030, African Unions agenda 2063 and the Global 2030 sustainable development agenda; Increased knowledge sharing, awareness, coordination, and capacity of CSOs in Kenya to undertake effective evidence based policy advocacy.

The SDGs Kenya Forum has mobilized community members during different meetings and in different regions of Kenya to foster local ownership and domestication of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Dubbed "The Community Dialogues" these meetings have provided platforms for intense exchange of existing gaps that need to be addressed and helped strengthen partnerships to creating synergies for effective and efficient utilization of resources.

#### **Key Objectives of the community dialogues have been:**

- To inform how marginalized peoples and local communities have been involved in the process leading to the endorsement of the SDGs. What results did this engagement bring and what more can be done to ensure the most vulnerable and marginalized can be brought into the process?
- To engage development and religion through a true dialogical process.
- To better understand what localizing the SDGs looks like for indigenous peoples and local communities.
- To show what young people and local communities are already doing to advance the SDGs.
- To explore how efforts at the local level can be better linked up and integrated for improved impact.
- To identify how youth priorities can be mainstreamed effectively with lessons and best practices learnt from youth engagements in the MDG.

- To promote the SDGs and discuss the role of youth in achieving them by 2030

### **Nakuru County Community Dialogue.**

Involving over 150 community members at the St. Ambrose Catholic church Kivumbuni ward, the dialogue commenced by sharing and analyzing critically the 17 Sustainable Development Goals for better local understanding. Noting that the goals are a global commitment by our leaders to help free the human race from hunger, poverty and oppression.

The group then went on to prioritize the following as key issues affecting the community:

<b>Priority Issue</b>	<b>Relevant Sustainable Development goal</b>
Poverty	SDG1 – End poverty in all its forms everywhere
Unemployment – youth and disabled	SDG8 – Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all
Corruption	SDG16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective and accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Affordable health care	SDG3 – Ensure healthy lives and promote wellbeing for all at all ages
Child Nutrition	SDG2- End hunger achieve food security and improve nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture
Affordable and quality education	SDG4 – Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.
Tribalism	SDG16 – Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective and accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels
Forgotten boy child	SDG 3, 4 and 5

The following were proposed as solutions to address the issues;

#### **Community level,**

- The need to work together with a clear understanding and appreciation of each other's unique qualities, roles and responsibilities
- Focus on peace and security at community level
- Change from talks to practice
- Youth – need unity to transform
- Actively Engage in public participation forums

- Create jobs
- Capacity building and economic empowerment of communities
- Popularize and implement the affirmative action initiatives
- Boy child support programmes

### ***How faith communities can contribute to achieving the United Nations (UN) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)***

On Care for Our Common Home (Laudato Si') is the new appeal from Pope Francis addressed to "every person living on this planet" for an inclusive dialogue about how we are shaping the future of our planet. Pope Francis calls the Church and the world to acknowledge the urgency of our environmental challenges and to join him in embarking on a new path. This encyclical is written with both hope and resolve, looking to our common future with candor and humility.

"Laudato si" engages development and religion on matters which affect the life of humankind in its common home, the earth, and invites every single person on the planet to engage in a global dialogue on how to build a new model of development so as 'to leave no-one behind', while caring for the future of the planet.

During the dialogue, Caritas explored how SDGs can be implemented to address local realities and needs of local communities and indigenous peoples through the faith based organizations; multiple perspectives on how to localize the SDGs; and discussed how efforts at the local level can be linked and integrated to global policies as called upon by Pope Francis in Laudato Si'. It is our believe as Catholic Church that local governments and stakeholders including the youth, indigenous peoples and local communities will play a critical role in defining, delivering and monitoring the 2030 development agenda.

### ***The role youth in the implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda***

It is estimated that there are over 1.5 billion youths all over the world and youths make up over 62% of Africa's population, young people are key partners in the new agenda. They are therefore eager to ensure its realization by playing an active role in the implementation.

Through OAY, the dialogue provided space for young people to discuss youth-led monitoring and accountability mechanisms for the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the measurement of their participation throughout the SDGs implementation. SDG Kenya Platform believes young people are agents, beneficiaries and victims of social changes. Creating opportunities for young people to engage in inter-generational and intercultural dialogue results to bringing forward young people's stories of resilience, their role as change makers and their active contribution to development which is an important step for creating inclusive societies and a peaceful world.

**In conclusion**, the facilitators emphasized that "CHANGE begins with you and me". Social ills such as corruption and tribalism can only end if we take personal/individual actions. Peace is a key ingredient for sustainable development. Responsible use of social media, love of our country, loving God with all our heart, strength, mind and soul and loving neighbor as self are at the heart of peaceful co-existence. We are the beginning of peace and all should strive to be instruments of peace taking the responsibility to confront those creating disharmony



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