



**2022 Annual Report** 



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## Message from the Board



**Dr Elizabeth Wala** Visionary and strategic award-winning Health Systems Strengthening Expert and Co – Chair (SDGs Kenya Forum)

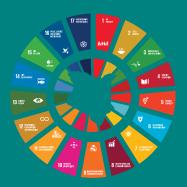


George Awalla Leads VSO's partnerships and fundraising in Horn of Africa and Co – Chair (SDGs Kenya Forum)



Memory Kachambwa Executive Director, The African Women's Development and Communication Network (FEMNET) and Co – Chair (SDGs Kenya Forum)

 ${}^ullet$  he board is tremendously grateful to engage with the SDGs Kenya Forum since its inception, guiding and strengthening the Forum against its fears and molding its strengths while expanding its opportunity base. As exemplified in this past year, saw the Forums turning point where it revamped its strategic direction and refocused on critical pillars that establish a roadmap towards sustained success. It is also with great pleasure that we "the board" has witnessed a great measure of achievements on various fronts. Advancing SDGs implementation in Kenya surely requires a concerted effort to achieve desirable targets. We acknowledge Forum's ability to effectively offer its leadership prowess alongside critical actors: State Department for economic planning as chair and Kenya Private Sector Alliance as co-chair within the Inter-Agency Technical Working Sub-Committee (IATWSC) Similarly, the Forum has proved competent and resilient in its commitment to engage new pathways in advancing gender equality and women's economic empowerment in Kenya, regionally, and at the global level. More recently, it has been consequential to explicate data implications in research and programs work, in that regard the Forum has explored partnerships with actors within the data value chain to ensure timely data production and use and to leverage the latter to inform policies leading to a more pronounced impact on the lives of people. This also called for expanded work on data production and tapping into new data sources such as Citizen-Generated Data which has led to the development of the Kenya Statistical Quality Assurance Framework and Quality Criteria for Citizen-Generated Data under the stewardship of Kenya National Bureau of Statistics. Alongside these achievements, it is noteworthy of the kind of wide range programs on community dialogues that directly spur great responsibility and accountability on local leaders and their engagements with constituents. The board is confident that the Forum's secretariat has set the bar high and has the requisite expertise and ability to achieve its targets and make meaningful contributions towards the Kenyan development Agenda.





## **Message from the Executive Director**



The year 2022 witnessed tremendous and significant efforts towards achieving Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs) among key stakeholders. During the past year, Kenya has gone through several changes not only in the political space but also in the economic, social, and environmental arena. After the general elections 2022, the new government proposes to ensure no one is left behind and that Kenya is Built Back Better through transition from consumptive dependency to productive resilience and the adaptation from concentrated wealth to worker ownership and community capital. Such a commitment to the people builds confidence in the ability of the government to meet the demands of those commonly marginalized development processes.

The national government as the lead stakeholder has continued to prioritize the SDGs by aligning its national development blueprint the Vision 2030 to the Agenda 2030 and Agenda 2063. The SDGs have been mainstreamed into the Medium-Term Plan (MTP3) and the focus of the ongoing MTP4 will be prioritization of access to basic needs for all. In addition, at the county level, the SDGS have been mainstreamed to the target level into the County Integrated Development Plans (CIDPs). Most Counties have concluded their 3rd generation CIDPs with some still ongoing and are expected to be completed in time for the next budget cycle.

The private sector has equally been impactful in realization and contribution to the achievement of the Goals. A number of companies operating in the country have embraced SDGs into their strategic business structures and operations across all the goals. On the other hand, the Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) working across the 17 SDGs have continued efforts in domesticating, localizing and driving ownership of SDGs at grassroots levels. CSOs contributions from the national to local levels are key and commendable. Kenya has emerged as a model nation where the Civil Society collaborates and partners appropriately with the government and other stakeholders in championing SDGs. Campaigns towards creation, adoption and implementation of good governance, social inclusion, and policies have also been witnessed as attributive efforts from the CSOs

Acceleration of SDGs progress is still rife in the Decade of Action, the year 2022 presented a good portion of achievements, challenges and hurdles but most importantly, platforms to draw lessons from for the future implementation of SDGs to make our planet a better place. Notably, the year saw the government through the State Department

For Economic Planning launching the SDGs Recovery and Acceleration Strategy during the 2022 Annual SDGs Multi-Stakeholder Conference. The Strategy will stimulate economic recovery and accelerate progress in the implementation of SDGs in Kenya while offering an opportunity base for key stakeholders to adopt innovative solutions that will accelerate the implementation of SDGs drawing Kenya closer to achieving the Agenda 2030. Last year, the Forum prioritized on voicing citizen's priorities on good governance, gender equality, climate action, access to basic needs for all as epicentre of development discourse. With Citizens at the Centre, the Forum will endeavor to engage different stakeholders in the implementation, review and follow-up on on the Agenda 2030 on Sustainable Development Goals.



## Message from the Inter-Agency Technical Working Sub-Committee

he United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, also known as the Earth Summit, was held in 1992, and since then, it's been acknowledged that the active involvement of all sectors of society and types of people is crucial in achieving Sustainable Development. The formalization of the nine sectors of society in Agenda 21 facilitated broader participation in UN activities related to sustainable development. In Kenya, stakeholder engagement is critical to coordinating the Implementation and Monitoring of the SDGs Agenda.

The Kenyan government recognizes the importance of stakeholder participation in guiding decision-making and achieving strategic development objectives. The implementation of SDGs at all levels must acknowledge the role of diverse players, such as Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The SDGs Kenya Forum, as a co-chair within the Inter-Agency Technical Working Committee (IATWC) alongside other stakeholders, has made invaluable efforts and commitments, both financial and technical, in ensuring the IATWC functions optimally within the SDGs stakeholder engagement framework for Kenya..

The Forum has played a leading role in revitalizing periodic meetings for members to take stock of the implementation status while offering unmatched force in the delivery of subsequent successful multi-stakeholder conferences. The IATWC expresses institutional gratitude to all key State Department of Planning stakeholders, the SDGs Kenya Forum, and all members for their effective participation and commitment towards deepening the engagement and making it systematic. All players are called upon to support and re-engage to re-energize the effective and efficient relationships across sectors that are essential in SDGs implementation and monitoring.



#### SDG Kenya Forum's Leadership



## **Global Forum for National SDG Advisory Bodies**

The SDGs Kenya Forum is currently a co-chair of the <u>Global Forum for National SDG advisory bodies</u> founded in 2019. As the world entered a new "Decade of Action" wherein the HLPF, national governments and stakeholders needed to speed-up activities and deliver towards implementing the SDGs until 2030. The Global Forum aims at fostering collective knowledge allowing its members entry into a broad and ever-growing range of bi- and multilateral research and good practice exchanges by individual countries and institutions. The Global Forum adds value to the individual efforts of those linked in; by realizing and contextualizing similarities and differences, the Forum creates new momentum and supports national sustainable development policy-making.



### **Interagency Technical Working Committee on SDGs**

The SDG Kenya Forum is a co-chair of the Interagency Technical Working Committee on SDGs (IATWC), The Inter-Agency Technical Working Committee (IATWC) on SDGs set up in 2016 is mandated with technical backstopping, national tracking, and reporting of SDGs processes and progress in Kenya. The IATWC comprises representatives from Government Ministries, Departments, and Agencies, Council of Governors (CoG), Parliament Caucus on SDGs and Business, Academia, UN System in Kenya, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Private Sector and Media. To ensure harmony and better coordination of the Committee operations, the IATWC is co-chaired by the State Department for Planning, the SDGs Kenya Forum, and KEPSA. The co-chairs have convening powers for SDGs processes in the Country. As a Co-Chair of the IATWC the SDG Kenya Forum plays a key role in ensuring that it provides a platform for key stakeholders in the development process to convene and develop strategies that will ensure progress on the Agenda 2030.



### **Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee (IAGSTC)**

The SDGs Kenya Forum is a member of the Inter-Agency Gender Statistics Technical Committee, which is a coordination mechanism that provides oversight in the implementation of the Gender Sector Statistics Plan (GSSP) 2019-2022. The committee members include representatives from National Treasury, Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC), National Council for Population and Development, Ministry of Energy, University of Nairobi, UN women, State Department for Gender and Affirmative Action, SDGs Kenya Forum, GROOTS Kenya and TNT. They have played a key role in ensuring smooth implementation of the "Making Every Woman and Girl Count" (MEWGC) programme, aimed at supporting the monitoring and implementation of the SDGs through better production and use of Gender Statistics. This action plan to improve quality gender statistics guides policy, advocacy, and accountability efforts for better delivery of gender equality and women's empowerment commitments. The team has made significant contributions in ensuring the country is on the right track towards increasing the number of gender indicators tracked and reported on for goal 5 and across 14 other SDGs from the initial 26 indicators, progressing to 34 and most recently to 42 out of the 80 indicators.

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## **Membership in Numbers**

# **486 Members**





17 Members



37 Members



4 QUALITY EDUCATION 31 Members



100 Members







30 Members























"Our ability to do great things with data will make a real difference in every aspect of our lives." Jennifer Pahlka, Founder and Executive Director for Code for America



"The impacts of FGM compounded with poor hygiene are multifaceted and they hinder equal and meaningful participation of women and girls in various educational cultural, economic activities and perpetuate the cycle of gender inequality and social exclusion" Tonny Olela, Youth Advisory Panelist UNFPA Kenya/SDGs Champion



"It is by standing up for the rights of girls and women that we truly measure up as men."

Desmond Tutu, South African cleric and theologian



"As individuals and organisations, we must ensure the rights of girls, young women and women feel valued and have access to equitable opportunities. In protracted humanitarian crises, it is girls, women and underprivileged who bear the brunt of the negative impacts. Through the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) we get gender justice and inclusion for the current and future generations" Annah Katuki, Gender and Inclusion Specialist Plan International



"We know that when women are empowered, they immeasurably improve the lives of everyone around them—their families, their communities and their countries." **Prince Harry, Duke of Sussex** 



"Stakeholders should establish a structured way to meaningfully engage youth in Sustainable Development Goals' programs and initiatives. They could consider setting up youth wings or departments that harmonize and coordinate their participation within the space." Arnold Gekonge, Team Lead, Champions for SDGs Youth



"Young people are the key to ending the vicious cycle of generational poverty, and these chains can only be broken the day we give our youth rich experiences. Thus, it is only fair to ensure that the young people from low income and underprivileged societies are NOT LEFT BEHIND, but rather are given equal opportunities to overcome ALL barriers they face" Peter Kwame, Co-founder & Director, Hatua Network



"Encouraging Intergenerational Dialogue is undoubtedly a springboard in building resilience among our diverse communities. When we learn to become resilient, we learn to adapt to adversity, hence strengthening our grassroots and indigenous communities" Milcah Mutindi Makato Founder, Greening Mua Environmental Initiative (GMEI)



#### SDG KENYA IN BRIEF

The SDGs Kenya Forum is an inclusive national membership platform and a convener of the Agenda 2030 for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that provides space for structured and coordinated civil society organization (CSOs) engagement with (national and subnational) governments, citizens, the private sector, media, academia and development partners. The forum engages with the government and all stakeholders in the implementation, review and follows up on the 2030 Agenda for SDGs.

Our Vision: Kenya positively transformed for the people and the planet.

Our Mission: To influence multi-stakeholder policies and actions for the achievement of the SDGs in Kenya

#### **Our Work**

#### 1. Engagement with National and County Governments

- Promote Data use and Evidence in the Monitoring and Implementation of SDGs.
- Advocate for Policy and Legislation to Strengthen Commitment, Financing, Planning and Implementation of Sustainable Goals.

#### 2. Citizen Driven SDGs Reviews, Implementation and Follow up

- Raising Citizens awareness on 2020 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through Leave No One Behind Dialogues.
- Working collectively with diverse stakeholders to drive accountability on 2020Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Advocacy and Structured Engagements at the Regional and Global Levels Sustainable Development processes.

#### 3. Partnerships

- Forging Synergy and collaborations among CSOs to optimize attainment of the SDGs targets.
- Building partnerships with the Government, International Agencies, the Private Sector, the Media and Academicians for the implementation of SDGs

#### Our Approach

With citizens at the Center, the SDGs Kenya Forum engages all stakeholders in the implementation, review and follow up on 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development Goals.





#### THEMATIC FOCUS

#### 1. Localization and ownership of SDGs

#### Annual Multi-stakeholder Conference 2022

To foster localization and promote ownership of SDGs in Kenya, the Forum partnered with members of the Inter-Agency Technical Working Committee (IATWC) in organizing the 2022 Annual SDGs Multi-stakeholder Conference which was held between 30th November and 2nd December 2022 in Mombasa. The Conference brought together over 130 key stakeholders championing the implementation of SDGs in Kenya and beyond. These included National and County Governments, Council of Governors, County Assemblies Forum, Civil Society Organizations, UN Agencies and Development Partners, Academia, Private Sector, Media and representatives from Finland, Uganda, and Tanzania. The theme for this year's Conference was "Recovering from Multiple crises and accelerating SDGs implementation in the Decade of Action". In the spirit of leaving no one behind, the three-day event provided an opportunity for all stakeholders to share good practices and experiences in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the context of multiple challenges as well as chart a way forward for Kenya to recover and accelerate SDGs implementation in the Decade of Action. An SDGs Award Ceremony was also held on the last day of the Conference to recognize and motivate SDGs stakeholders who demonstrated outstanding efforts in accelerating the realization of the 2030 Agenda.





#### 2. Strengthening institutional framework, capacity building and collaborations

#### GEF launching, Samburu County

n the Forum's commitment in supporting Counties to adopting and domesticating Generation Equality Forum (GEF) commitments by 2026, the year 2022 saw our implementing partner, Akili Dada, play a key role in the launching GEF Commitments in Samburu County a year after the presidential Kisima declaration to end FGM in Samburu 2021. During the launch the County committed to prioritize women and girls to advance gender equality. Engaged parties included County Officials, National Government representatives, the Gender Sector Working Group, and CSOs (working with Young Women and Girls, GBV, Women Economic Empowerment). Mapped young women entrepreneurs and young women advocates trained under this project were also part of the launch. In attendance of the launch and in the spirit of partnerships and collaborations were; Government officials – Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government, Judiciary, Probation, Children's Department, Director of Gender, County Director of Gender and Social Services and Police Service. There also was representation from religious leaders, Social Workers, the Media, and Civil Society Organizations.







#### Documenting Unpaid Care Work, Kajiado County

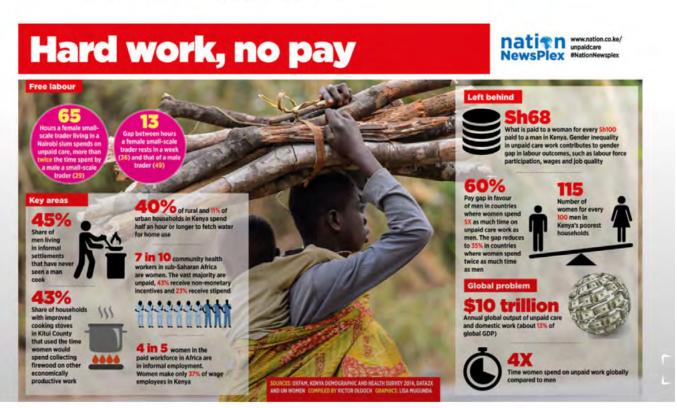
uilding on ongoing SDG 5 advocacy and accountability work in Kajiado county, our Implementing partner, White Ribbon Alliance (WRA), conducted a survey on documentation of Unpaid Care and Domestic Work (UCDW); perspectives of women and girls, key stakeholders, their top priorities for gender equal and an economically empowered society. This generated evidence for advancing Women Economic Empowerment (WEE) in line with Kajiado County Government Women Economic Empowerment Policy. Report's highlights included; underlying social, cultural, political and economic factors undermining the status of women and girls and hindered them from reaching their full Economic Potential. Various factors denying women and girls economic opportunities, disabling economic conditions, structures and systems limiting women and girls in formal and informal sectors, gaps, opportunities and recommendations for increased women economic empowerment were extensively explored. The survey reports was disseminated through community dialogues, regional forums and media outlets, inspiring action and accountability for a care economy that equitably shares and values care and domestic work through the 5R solutions (Recognitions, Redistributions, Reduce, Rewards and Representation) in Kajiado County. Read more

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Women have to take care of the livestock as part of their daily routine but we men have to sell and take care of the household needs. Some of us men engage in livestock selling as our main source of income. Male FGD Participant Kumpa.

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Monday, February 03, 2020 - updated on April 13, 2021



#### Gender Knowledge Hub Members Training

n Collaboration with State Department for Gender-Directorate of Policy and Research and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics: SDGs Kenya Forum hosted a Gender Knowledge Hub Members training focused on Gender responsive Budgeting, Gender Data and Advocacy in practice. Facilitators were drawn from the State department for Gender and affirmative Action - Policy and Research directorate, and Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS). The Key output for the training was enhanced knowledge sharing and exchange, capacities in understanding key gender elements and concepts including Development, Gender mainstreaming and Women Economic Empowerment (WEE), Gender Data and gaps for monitoring and reporting against SDGs indicator framework, networking, and advocacy in practice among 30 participants (25 women and 05 men) drawn from across the 47 counties in Kenya. The training provided a platform for engagement with key government policy makers and contributed to enhanced capacity and skills of the Forum staff, Implementing Partners, and members to identify Gender Equality (SDG 5) issues at the grassroots level, challenges, opportunities and lessons for advocacy for gender responsive budgeting and policies that support the attainment of gender indicators at County and National levels to ensure closure of the gender gaps.



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## Gender Responsive Budgeting Training for National Gender Focal points & County Budget Practitioners, Kilifi County

n Kilifi County, FIDA Kenya hosted a Gender Responsive Budget Training for National Gender Focal points & various County Sector officials. Development themes around enhanced knowledge and familiarization with the county budget processes and tools, inherent structural inequalities & the impact of Poor Public Services on the Vulnerable Groups- with the intention of making them more equitable took center stage.

The event brought together a range of participants including; Civil Society Organizations-implementing partners from Nairobi, Kilifi, Nakuru, Kisumu, Bomet, Kajiado, Kitui, and County and national government representatives from the 10 Kilifi county departments and sectors including Social sector:Disaster, Gender, Social Services, Betting Control, Culture and Sports, Agriculture, Rural and Urban Development (ARRO): Agriculture, Fisheries, Lands, Health sector, Infrastructure, Housing, Energy and ICT, Education sector, Trade, tourism, and Cooperatives, Public administration and intergovernmental relations, Public Service, Gender, Social protection, Youth Affairs, Culture, Sports. Environment, water and Sanitation, Economic Planning and Budgeting sectors.

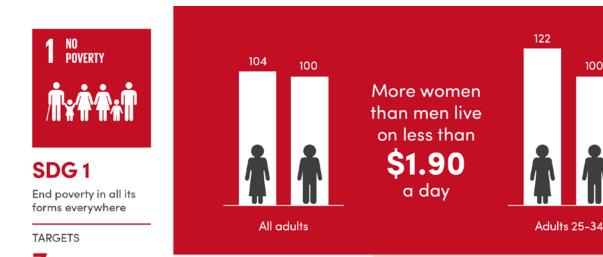


#### Mapping Women in Business (WiB) for Training and Linkage to Financial Institutions - Kitui

o promote Gender Equality by empowering women economically; increase their financial independence, autonomy, and agency, reducing gender-based discrimination and violence, our implementing partner in Kitui County, Women Empowerment Link (WEL), mapped 26 women and 4 men in business (WIB), trained them on Financial Literacy, and linked them to Financial institutions for access to capital for their businesses.

Women gained knowledge and skills to manage their finances effectively through budgeting, saving, investing, and understanding financial products and services. With this knowledge gained the participating women can make informed decisions about their finances and take steps to improve their economic well-being. The women also negotiate at the household level and have been using the information to train other women in the community. WEL also assessed the Savings and Internal Lending Communities(SILC)initiative, strengthened capacities on financial management and planning, and developed a programme suitable for Kitui women in business.

One of the women in business has applied for capital of KES 500,000 from the women empowerment fund initiative and 08 women in business are taking control of their finances by budgeting, they save and have attained financial freedom. Success Story.



WHY IT MATTERS

women aged 25-34 living in extreme poverty for every 100 men in the same age group. Unequal access to, and control over, economic resources lies at the root of women's poverty.

Globally, there are 122

Research shows that more cash in women's hands contributes not only to eliminating poverty but also to better education, nutrition and health outcomes for children and other members of the household.

GENDER-SPECIFIC

**INDICATORS** 

6

Women gained knowledge and skills to manage their finances effectively through budgeting, saving, investing, and understanding financial products and services.

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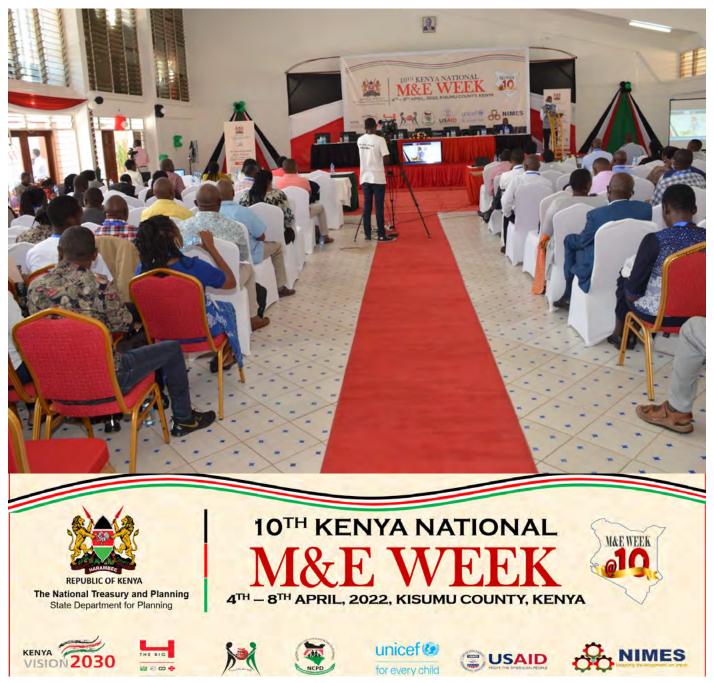


#### 3. Data, Research and SDGs reporting

#### 10th Monitoring & Evaluation Week

rganized by the National Treasury and economic planning, state department planning, The Kenya National M&E week @10: Celebrated Progress, Consolidating Gains and Explored New Opportunities for M&E in the Public Sector. The overall objective of the 10th Kenya National M&E week was meant to strengthen institutionalization of M&E in the Public Sector to achieve sustainable development outcomes. The Forum supported the achievements in various strands organized to realized the conference objectives, which includes emerging issues in M&E as technology, M&E in the Public sector, Progress on NIMES Implementation, M&E and Development Agenda 2030 etc. Access the full report <a href="https://example.com/here">here</a>

### Modernizing Data Ecosystem in Kenya



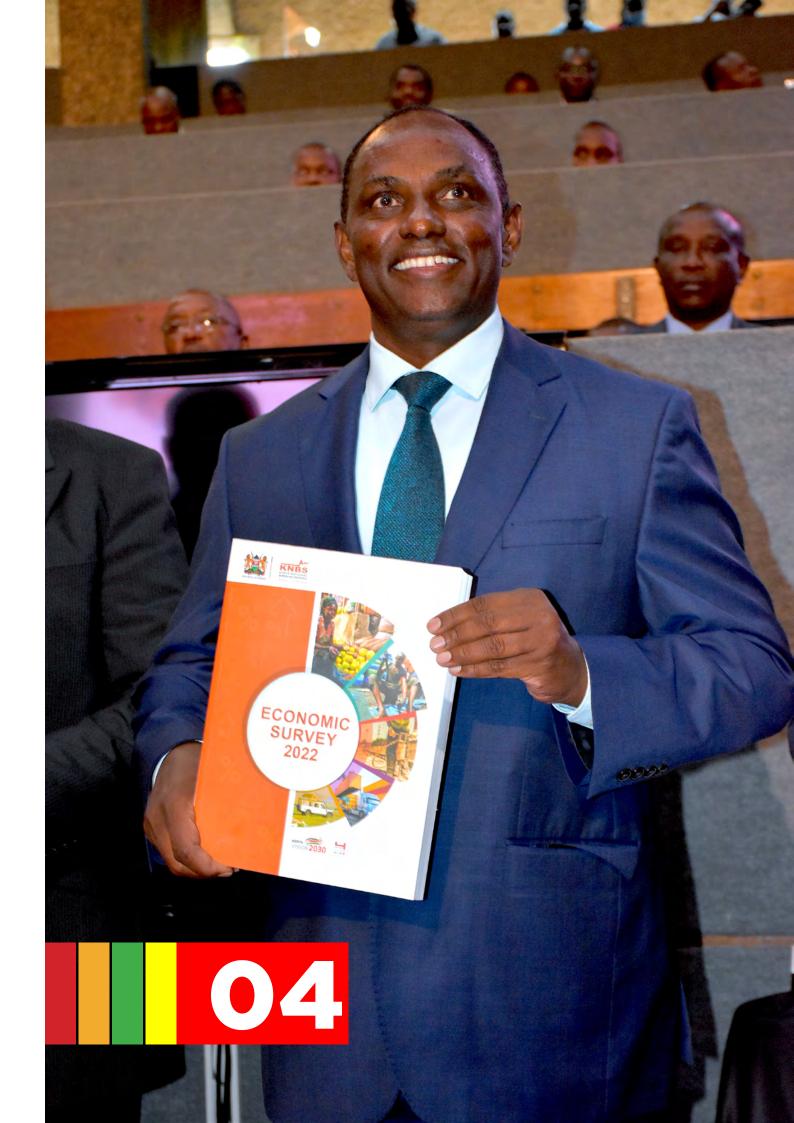
ivil Society Organizations (CSOs) convended by SDGs Kenya Forum, PARIS21, GPSDD, UNWOMEN with the stewardship and technical support of Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (KNBS), developed, validated and launched the Quality Criteria-"Kenya Statistical Quality Assurance Framework" (KeSQAF), within which it annexed Quality Criteria for validating Citizen-Generated Data (CGD). The tool addresses quality issues, for the bureau to tap into alternative data sources, to cut data generation costs and use data from CSOs to fill the existing data gaps and needs.

In an empirical demonstration on the KeSQAF application, the partners developed an inventory of data sources from CSOs and subjected them to the Quality checks. Out of the 83 respondents', about 38% had generated gender data, 14 datasets that potentially adhered to quality gateway and dimensions within the criteria were selected to serve as the pilot for pretesting the criteria. Results informed potential amendments to the framework and were a starting point to quality checks for other datasets. Datasets from USAWA agenda and GROOTS Kenya passed the quality threshold, thus estimates from USAWA can be used as a proxy for indicator 4.6.1.

Partners also collaborated with KNBS, trained and sensitized CSOs on quality data production and harmonization within the data value chain for non-state actors. This increased knowledge and skills on enabling environment for CGD, data production knowledge and collaboration with KNBS, this increased appetite for CSOs to produce quality data within the auspices of Data Users and Producers Platform (DUPP). Access resources in the following <u>link</u>

#### Leave No One behind Community Dialogues





#### 4. Accountability

he SDGs Kenya Forum in collaboration with Ahadi Achievers Empowerment CBO (AAE) in Makueni and Citizen Network for Rural Development (CNRD) in Taita Taveta as well as other development partners conducted community dialogues in Makueni County and Taita Taveta respectively. Over 200 people were reached from different groups including youth, elderly, women & men, people with disabilities and community leaders. Participants exchanged perspectives, solutions and strategies to accelerate development of communities.

From the discussions that ensued several cross-cutting developmental challenges affecting both counties were identified by the citizens. These included, climate change, food insecurity, poor rains, youth unemployment, high cost of living, corruption and governance, poor state of infrastructure and public amenities and lack of civic education on SDGs among others. As a way forward there was consensus by all that there was a need to establish and address all underlying issues and challenges undermining development of communities. With the national government leading the process every county had a role to play in achieving the Agenda 2030.

#### National and County youth engagements, Older Persons Rights, Persons Living with Disability.





#### 5. Social Inclusion

The aspect of social inclusion has called upon duty bearers, policymakers and actors involved to be cognizant of groups that are left out when shaping policy, building infrastructures as well as allocation of resources, youth. Through National and County youth engagements the SDGs Kenya Forum has engaged the youth demographic in activities and initiatives designed to help them become involved in their communities and to give them a platform to make their voices heard. Older persons rights for elderly individuals to be treated with dignity and respect is an ongoing discourse in Kenya. Access to rightful medical care and assistance as well as protection from violent acts and discrimination has been championed by many of the Forum members and partners specializing in the field.

Persons living with disability with physical or mental impairments which limit their ability to perform certain activities. These individuals are protected by national and international laws which guarantee their rights to social inclusion, equal access to services, and freedom from discrimination.







#### 6. Global and Regional and National reporting

#### High-Level Political Forum (HLPF)

he Forum convened two hybrid planning and preparatory meetings for its Members and SDG Goal groups for the 5 sustainable development goals that were under review; SDG4, SDG5, SDG14, SDG15, SDG17. Participants reviewed the context, progress and challenges, and developed Key messages and a joint CSO Position paper on the status of implementation of the 5 goals. Additionally, the Forum hosted 2 virtual side events (on SDG5 and SDG17) focusing on Inclusive Governance and Citizen Generated Data where panelists highlighted and discussed key issues and recommendations with the calls to action. We also co-hosted a media breakfast briefing session with members and implementing partners, a press statement with an outline of key governance issues which required both policy makers and public attention prior to and during elections was presented to the media for dissemination to the public.



#### The Eighth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development (ARFSD) Brief

The SDG Kenya Forum attended the eighth session of Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development convened by Economic Commission for Africa (ECA), with the Government of Rwanda and in collaboration with the African Union Commission, the African Development Bank and entities of the United Nations system, in Kigali Rwanda through in-person and online participation, from 3 to 5 March 2022. More than 1,800 participants were present; Ministers and high-level representatives of the Governments of 54 ECA Member States, Intergovernmental bodies, United Nations bodies and Specialized Agencies, International Organizations, major groups and other stakeholders.

Delegates agreed on Africa's collective voice and political declaration with key messages for African countries to effectively participate in the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) that followed up in July and reviewed the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the global level.

A High-level panel addressed unlocking financing to build forward better from the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) crisis and accelerate delivery of sustainable development in Africa. They also highlighted progress at the regional and subregional levels in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063 in the context of the COVID-19 crisis. Another key insight from the Forum was the use of data and statistics to build forward better and accelerate delivery of sustainable development in Africa.

The SDGs Kenya Forum Kenya Forum also hosted a twitter space on 25<sup>th</sup> February, 2022, from 5:30 – 7:00 PM with a focus on SDGs 4, 5, 14, 15 and 17 themed: A Green, Inclusive and Resilient Africa Poised to Achieve the 2030 Agenda and Agenda 2063. (https://twitter.com/SDGsKenyaForum/status/1496789003374415872).



#### ARFSD 2022 Key Links:

- Eighth session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: summary, key messages and the Kigali Declaration: <a href="https://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/TCND/ARFSD2022/8th-ARFSD%20">https://www.uneca.org/sites/default/files/TCND/ARFSD2022/8th-ARFSD%20</a> Final%20Draft%20Key%20Messages%20and%20Declaration.pdf
- Official opening of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JT\_o-p63us">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1JT\_o-p63us</a>
- Video: Eighth Session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable Development: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqDvqxX3rp8">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PqDvqxX3rp8</a>
- ECA's director for East Africa, Mama Keita, on why #AfCFTA is described as Africa's Marshall Plan: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4FXa-rIMYM">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r4FXa-rIMYM</a>
- Closing remarks by ECA's Hanan Morsy, Deputy Executive Secretary: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/">https://www.youtube.com/</a> watch?v=\_HJ8Zedmlis
- ARFSD2022: Playlist: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcfKplk33JTg7k4Q9nhYs6KlyifEG-yzV">https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLcfKplk33JTg7k4Q9nhYs6KlyifEG-yzV</a>



#### United Nation General Assembly (UNGA) 2022

he General Debate at the United Nations General Assembly 2022 acknowledged the overwhelming number of crises that the world is currently facing, including, increasing militarization around the world and the reality is that current systems do not work. The Secretary General emphasized that the only way to approach ANY major global challenge is through a "coalition of the world", and not through a single power or select group. He also called for a return to the core mission of the United Nations – "achieving and sustaining peace." – and peace from an inclusive approach that incorporates prevention. With the Our Common Agenda report and the New Agenda for Peace being vehicles to center and refocus the global community.

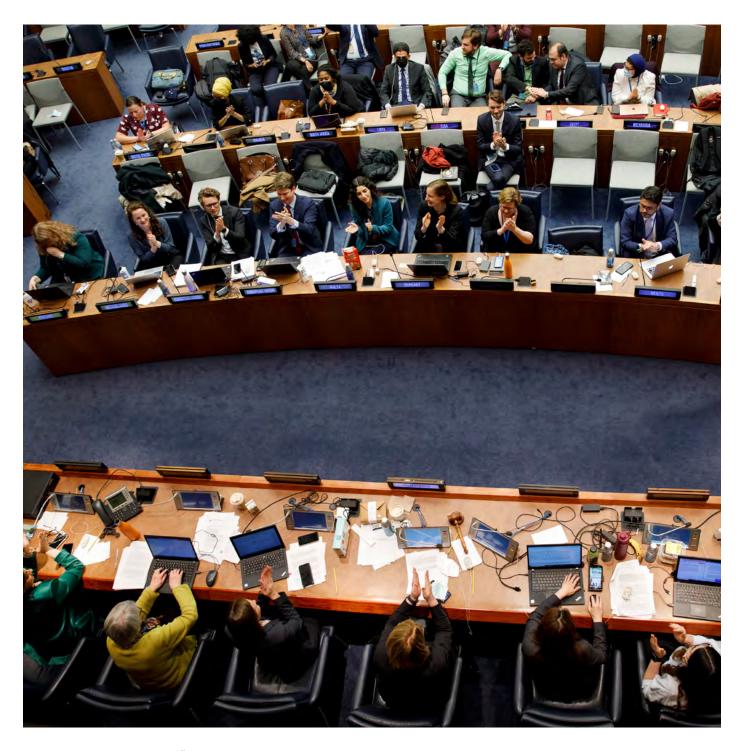
The question then becomes how do we collectively implement the agenda and how can civil society build momentum towards this? What are the next practical steps and how can we mobilize together? Modalities resolution adopted, provided CSOs with a timeline: September 2023 the mid-term SDG heads of state and government summit, this follows the every 4 years model set out in 2015, and will mark a critical point of reflect on the pandemic and how we accelerate SDG implementation ahead of 2030.

September 2023 will also hold a Preparatory Ministerial for the Summit of the Future with the theme of "Multilateral Solutions For a Better Tomorrow" where a "Pact for the Future will be adopted. The event presents a good platform for partners engagements including CSOs and Youth on matters SDGs.



#### CSW, check on the final version of the Country position

The sixty sixth Commission on the status of women (CSW66)-is a process undertaken every year with CSOs, UN agencies and government agencies collaborating: the forum actively contributed to strengthening national level coordination with other key actors, the Forum and implementing partners like Akili Dada are members of the national CSW steering committee hosted by the State Department of Gender Affairs, the committee is mandated to plan for Kenya's engagement in CSW every year. Under the CSW steering committee, the Forum, our members and implementing partners like-Akili Dada, Groots Kenya and CREAW participated in formulating the country position paper 2022 for CSW66, that highlights Kenya's commitment to advancing gender equality under the priority theme. At Africa region the Forum contributed to advocacy engagements, supported and facilitated 06 gender knowledge Hub members from the counties to engage in the Africa CSW66 regional convening of African women and girls. They meaningfully participated in virtual CSW sessions with minimal interruptions and internet/technology related challenges. The county-based grassroots Gender champions learnt how to engage in global policy advocacy spaces.





#### 7. Global and Regional and National reporting

## Membership Report

he SDGs Kenya Forum is a Membership platform of 486+ Civil Society Organizations actively working in Kenya for the implementation, monitoring and reporting of the SDGs progress in Kenya. They comprise of international, national and local non governmental organizations who through their varying footholds provide their expert insight on different SDG target sets at different levels.

From January 2022, the Forum's platform has experienced a surge of interest to join ad partners with the budding platform to better synergize efforts in the SDGs process from institutions as well as individual led organizations. This had provided an opportunity for inclusivity in the process and collective input in advocacy, monitoring and report of the process.

The progress of SDGs implementation in Kenya is tracked using different tools by other sector stakeholders as the SDGs Kenya Forum not only engages the Civil society groups in Kenya but also works closely with the private sector, media, UN Agencies, and academia. This form of holistic partnership approach has informed the decision making processes from every angle thus informing resource allocation and distribution throughout the country.

#### 8 Expectations and way forward

n the next 12 months, the Forum has many aspirations and will play a key role to ensure Kenya attains the aspirations of SDGs, through better coordination of CSO efforts towards implementation, assessing progress/achievement and reporting. The Forum will continue to work towards accelerating implementation of the 17 SDGs. These will be achieved through, increased localization and ownership, advocating for the SDGs in various Technical Working Groups (TWGs), working with state actors to formulate and implement policies that provide an enabling environment under the following areas of focus:

Localization and Ownership, the forum will continue to strengthen the domestication of the SDGs at the national and county levels to align with the existing development contexts. Through the Leave No one Behind (LNOB) community and county dialogues, listening to people and be aware of what is happening in their respective areas of operation; translating these voices of the poorest and most marginalized citizens into rational or strong arguments that are acknowledged and addressed by policy makers; developing relationships or partnerships with the county governments, and in particular, identify departments, actors or institutions that need to respond in order to remedy identified problems.

Enhance gender equality and women empowerment in Kenya, initiatives will focus on strengthening the capacity and ability of governments and CSOs to deliver on gender equality policy priorities, through formulation and implementation of Gender Policies, GEF commitments, and WEE initiatives, by ensuring that these are mainstreamed into planning frameworks at both levels of government. Strengthen intersectional and intergenerational feminist and grassroots movements for social accountability on these commitments. The Forum will therefore continue to advocate for and influence establishment of key gender policies and promote gender mainstreaming and gender responsive budgeting. These initiatives hope to increase implementation and funding of policies that advance women's economic empowerment and make it a priority at the national and county level, through mainstreaming, resource allocation and implementation of gender development agenda and policy priorities under the MTP IV, CIDPs, ADPs, Sectoral Plans and budgets, for enhanced funding for GEF commitments and WEE initiatives. The Forum will also continue to run initiatives that strengthen existing gender equality institutional frameworks including but not limited to GSWGs, gender champions, Women opinion leaders, young women, mentors and members of the gender knowledge hub etc. To remain focused on its core mandate, the Forum will continue to work with key partners at the county level for

the realization of key milestones on advancing SDG 5, including: Akili Dada, KEFEADO, GROOTS Kenya, Women Empowerment Link (WEL), Centre for Rights Education and Awareness (CREAW), FIDA-Kenya, White Ribbon Alliance (WRA), Women empowerment and girl child welfare organization (POLYCOM Development Project), and members of the gender Knowledge Hub.

Strengthen the Forum as an Accountability Platform for CSOs' Collective Advocacy and Impact on SDGs, through multi-sectoral engagements, the Forum will advance some of the policies at the international and regional levels, efforts will be made to ensure that the government also adheres and aligns its work to the regional platforms for engagement, visibility and knowledge exchange such as the acceleration of the implementation of the SDGs through various Forums (National, Regional and Global Meetings-including the 9th session of the Africa Regional Forum on Sustainable development (ARFSD), 67th Session of the Commission on the status of women (CSW67) HLPF, UNGA), ICPD25,CEDAW, Maputo protocols, among others. This will be done in partnerships and collaboration with the Inter Agender technical Working Committee (IATWC), The State Department for Gender (SDG), Council of Governors (CoG), African Women's Development and Communications Network (FEMNET), Plan International Kenya, Coalition for Violence against Women (COVAW), KEWOPA, VSO Kenya, Action AID Kenya, Save the Children, Help Age International, Organization of African Youth (OAY) and CARITAS, Parliamentary caucus on SDGs and Business, among others.

Data, Research and SDGs Reporting: to increase access to timely, accurate and disaggregated data for evidence-based decision making and quality reporting. Addressing data gaps, for reporting progress against national SDG indicators, encouraging data use by having open dialogues with key users, key stakeholders and policy makers on how data/ statistics produced can better meet their needs, to encourage the use of improved data for evidence-based decision-making and accountability. The partnership with KNBS will guide production and adoption of CGD. The Forum will facilitate the development of Civil Society Organizations contribution towards the Voluntary National Reports for Kenya as well as prepare a 'shadow' report alongside the government one as well as county specific VNRs. For inclusivity, the Forum will repackage existing data for consumption by different stakeholders, strengthen capacity for big data analytics, and establish partnership with other institutions dealing on data (such IPFM, UNICEF, UNWOMEN, GPSDD, among others).

Institutional Capacity Strengthening: In 2023, the Forum will undertake a mapping and updating of the membership database and hold the Annual General Assembly (AGM) with a view to expanding the number of partners who are able to collectively advocate for government to accelerate the implementation of the national SDGs roadmap and gender equality commitments to benefit more women and girls, people with disability and all marginalized or people most likely to be left behind in Kenya. The Forum will employ a multi-channel communication strategy by balancing multiple communications methods, guided by the platforms that members are most active on. The Forum website will be revamped to make it as interactive as possible as it is the first point of digital engagement and serves as a central information hub. Forum's social media platforms will be optimized through creation of content that engages current audience, interests potential stakeholders, and strategically drives them towards the Forum's main goal. It will pursue mobile outlets, such as peer-to-peer texting as well as invest in a Customer Relationship Management (CRM) platform.

## BILL& MELINDA GATES foundation





















## 10. Supported by Inter-Agency Technical Working Sub-Committee (IATWSC)

























## Implementing Partners























#### SDG Kenya forum- Account Held in DI

Bal. year 2022

			2022			
Funder	Project name	Currency	Opening bal(£) R	eceived(£) [	Expensed(£)	£
Membership Fees	SDG Kenya Forum (Membership)	KES	25,474.81	8,205.62	-6,704.45	26,975.98 Active
German Development Coopera-	SDG- Partnership for Agenda 2013	KES	8,847.61	0	-8,847.61	0.00 Closed
Urgent Action Fund- Africa	SDG KE forum C19 response budget- partner- ships for Agenda 2031	USD	11,346.40	0	-635.23	10,711.17 Active
CREAW	SDG KE-Deliver for Good Campaign	KES	2,172.96	2,856.91	-3,073.50	1,956.37 Active
Generation Equality Forum-SDG	SDG KE-End violence against women & girls	KES	8,521.05	8,847.61	-2,657.72	14,710.94 Active
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation	Advancing SDG5 through SDG Kenya Forum	USD	0 7	44,962.19	-492,228.51	252,733.68 Active
German Development Coopera-	Recover Better (SDG)	KES	0	53,234.05	-37,242.94	15,991.11 Active
						323,079.25





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#TwendeKaziNaSDGs

Leave No Kenyan Behind