

Our Focus

Access to People-Centered Justice and the Rule of Law

Provision of Legal Assistance: Legal Aid Centers
Webinar: Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances, World Social Justice Day 2024
Legislation on the Criminalization of Enforced Disappearances in Kenya

2
6
8

09

Inclusive Governance and Accountability

Youth Engage with the Kwale County Assembly
Setting up Oversight Structures for the Mombasa Inspectorate Service: Review & Amendment of Mombasa County Inspectorate Service Bill
Petition: Legal Action against Kwale County Service Board
Rapid Assessment on the Impact of the Doctor's strike on Patients and their Right to Health

10
14
15

16

Resilience, Peace and Security

Social Media Innovation Lab 2024 convenes Young Content Creators to Lead the way in Digital Peacebuilding
HURIA Hosts UN-Women Delegation: Accelerating the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda

17
18



Our Focus

Access to People-Centered Justice and the Rule of Law

The Problems We Seek to Address

Communities in the coastal region of Kenya have for a long time decried unaddressed human rights violations and abuses. Typical grievances include land grabbing and arbitrary deprivation of land; extrajudicial execution and enforced disappearances; police harassment and misconduct; labor abuses perpetrated by the vibrant tourism, extractives, manufacturing, and hospitality industries; as well as sexual and gender-based violence.

Despite this, the majority of such cases go unreported due to victims' fear and mistrust of the



justice system, including fear of reprisals and intimidation of victims and family members by perpetrators. Victims who report incidences experience fatigue and reluctantly discontinue

cases due to a myriad of challenges, including unaffordable costs, complicated legal procedures, long distances to relevant institutions, and corruption.





How we intervened



a Provision of Legal Assistance: Legal Aid Centers

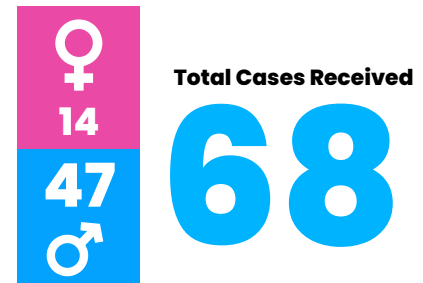
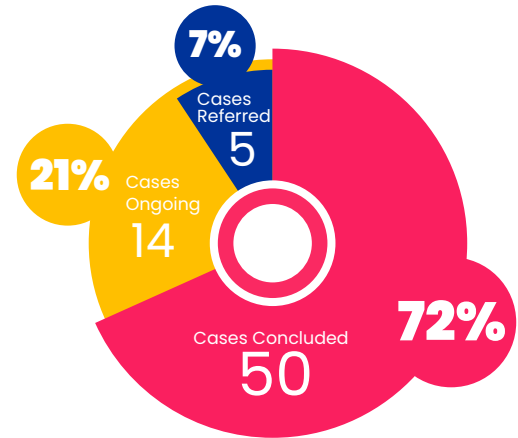
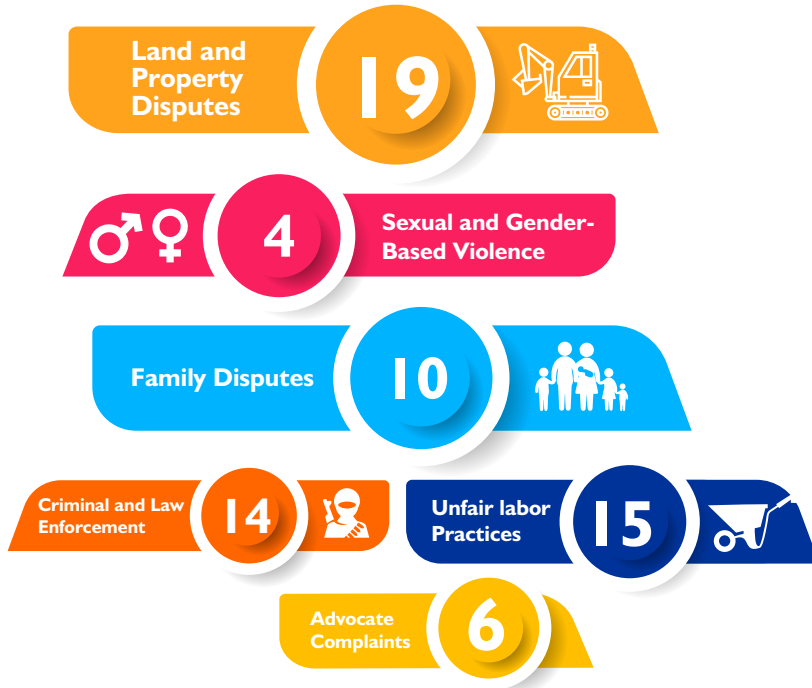
HURIA provides legal aid assistance through its social justice and legal aid centers in Kinango, Ukunda, and Kizingo areas. Services provided at the centers include legal advice, alternative dispute resolution, and legal document drafting. The centers are staffed by paralegals, professional mediators, and pro-bono lawyers, who provide legal assistance for cases lodged, typically through walk-ins, referrals, and the organization's Legal Advisory help and inquiry line.

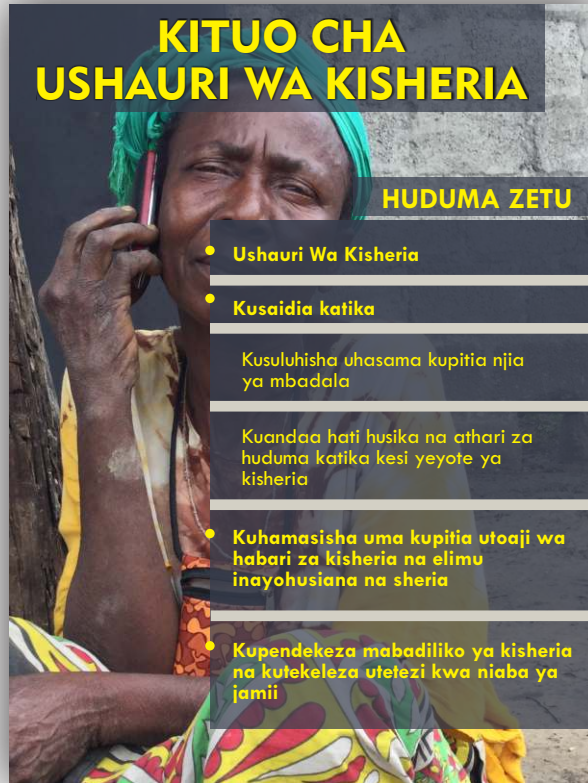




Highlights

Nature of cases lodged at the Centres





Breakthroughs on Complaints Received

Case 1 *Complaint by Salma over Child Neglect*

HURIA received a complaint of a family dispute through the Free Legal Aid Advisory Call platform on January 24th, 2024. Salma claimed that her husband had neglected caring for his four children and moved to Mombasa. Later on, he came back to convince his 17-year-old daughter to move to Likoni-Mombasa so that he could secure her a job. When Salma found out, she reported the matter to the area sub-chief and followed up with the village chairman in Likoni. She later reported the matter to the Kinango Children's Department for action. However, the matter was not entirely settled, and her daughter was still missing and subjected to child labor in Mombasa.

On January 24th, 2024, the public complaint team immediately responded and contacted the sub-chief of Ndovuni, the village chairman in Likoni, and the Likoni police station to locate Salma's 17-year-old daughter. At last, we found out where Chizi's daughter was held, and she was swiftly rescued. We provided transport facilitation for Salma throughout the tracing of her daughter.

b

Webinar Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances, World Social Justice Day 2024

In commemorating **World Social Justice Day 2024**, HURIA's Public Complaints and Response team convened a webinar dubbed Bridging gaps, Building Alliances: **The Future of Social Justice Centres in Coastal Kenya**.

Social Justice Centers have increasingly emerged nationwide, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas, to support vulnerable communities in accessing justice. The first social justice center was established in Mathare, Nairobi in 2014. Over time, the number has steadily increased, with over **15** social justice centers actively operational in Kenya's Coastal region.

To mark **World Social Justice Day**, the webinar deliberated on strategies to mitigate existing challenges and harness the collective power of social justice centers to promote access to justice amongst communities at the Coast. The difficulties highlighted include dwindling financial constraints in support for social justice work and the increasing threats and intimidation that human rights defenders are working within the justice centers.

Amongst notable speakers during the webinar was Naila Abdalla, Founder and CEO of Sisters for Justice, which empowers and promotes women's and children's rights in Mombasa County. "This journey is not for the faint-hearted; I have encountered threats and

intimidation from different actors when advocating for the rights of women and girls in the community. Additionally, lack of goodwill from different justice actors also contributes to slowing down efforts to enhance justice in the community," she stated, further highlighting that substantive efforts must go into protecting human rights defenders and safeguarding the civic space.

Further, stakeholders in the webinar noted the need to deepen synergies amongst social justice centers operating in the coast region. This would facilitate joint advocacy on redress to gross human rights violations, strengthened referral pathways, and collective fundraising to promote the sustainability of social justice center work. Christine Kabuya from Amkeni Community Organization alluded that "we need to come together and support each other in combating injustices in our community; a well-organized network will help in addressing the challenges we face and collectively offer solutions that will be sustainable in this fight rather than working in isolation which can easily bring downfall to the good fight."

HURIA is working towards strengthening synergies amongst social justice centers at the coast region in support of cross-learning, advocacy, and fundraising.



Acknowledgment

A special thank you to our Donor, the Embassy of Netherlands through UNDP-Amkeni wa Kenya, for supporting access to justice for indigents and vulnerable communities. These efforts are funded through the Strengthening Civic Space for Realization of Sustainable Development Goals in Kenya project.



C Legislation on the Criminalization of Enforced Disappearances in Kenya

HURIA recently launched a report that provides an account of cases of Enforced Disappearances in Kwale County as documented by its Public Complaints and Response team. Amongst other things, the report, dubbed WHO'S NEXT? Recommends the enactment of legislation that will criminalize and prescribe penalties for the crime of enforced disappearance in Kenya.

In **2023**, Kituo cha Sheria submitted a petition to the National Assembly Public Petitions Committee proposing the development of the legislation. Consequently, HURIA and other organizations were invited by the National Assembly Public PPetition'scommittee to submit submissions.

To build on these efforts, HURIA, in partnership with the Kenya **National Commission of Human Rights (KNCHR), MUHURI, HAKI Africa, IMLU, BRAVE Media, Amnesty International, Kituo cha Sheria, and Dignity International**, held a consultative forum to deliberate on advocacy steps towards the development and enactment of the legislation.

In the forum, stakeholders discussed advocacy approaches towards accelerating the drafting of the legislation. Key topics included reviewing the weaknesses in existing legal redress mechanisms, including the Habeas Corpus applications; building on lessons from various countries with existing legislation, such as Argentina and Chile, and pushing the Kenyan Government to ratify

the International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances.

In the coming months, HURIA and its partners will be engaged in advocacy efforts with various Government officials to push for enactment of the legislation to criminalize enforced disappearances in Kenya.



Acknowledgment

A special thank you to Amnesty International-Netherlands for their support in the monitoring, documenting, and reporting of gross human rights violations in the Coast of Kenya. These efforts are supported by the Strengthening Civic Space project



Our Focus

2

Inclusive Governance and Accountability



The Problems We Seek to Address

Article 174 of the Constitution of Kenya outlines objectives for devolution, amongst them giving powers of self-governance to the people and enhancing their participation in governance. The Bill of Rights in the CoK 2010 further gives the people broader civic and political rights.

However, over ten years later, citizens have experienced structural impediments that hinder effective participation in Governance. This has heightened the apathy amongst communities who are largely unwilling to participate in such processes. This is partly contributed by a limited understanding of the importance of civic engagement and a lack of knowledge of what constitutes public participation, including the stages, methods, and content required to ensure meaningful engagement.

Civic engagement processes are widely perceived as tedious and segregated to elites in the community. Additionally, due to the low level of income, engagement by special interest groups is incentive-driven. As such, Leaders often take advantage of this to exclude dissenting voices and engage with loyalists rubber stamp development plans in exchange for political and economic favors.





How we intervened

a

Youth Engage with the Kwale County Assembly



HURIA led a team of 20 young people from Kwale County to an experiential learning visit at the Kwale County assembly. During the visit, the youth sat through a county assembly session and understood how the assembly conducts its business. County assembly officers also took them through a tour of the premises, and youth were able to familiarize themselves with where to file public petitions, the functioning of various assembly committees, and how to access information on assembly proceedings.

Hamza Salim, one of the youth participating in the visit, highlighted, **"Kwenda public gallery ya county assembly imenisaidia kujua je wale viongozi tuliowachagua wanatuwakilisja vyema? Je yale malalamishi tunaowapatia nyanjani, wanayafikisha Bungeni. Ningesihi sana vijana wenzangu waweze kupata muda kutembelea public gallery ya county assembly ili kupata kuelewa zaidi kuhusu kazi ambazo MCAs wanafanya"**.

The highlight of the youth visit was interacting with the Speaker and County clerk. Youth could have one-on-one sessions and ask pertinent questions about how the assembly conducts its oversight role.





CASE STUDY



Kiongozi Maskani:

Creating opportunities for issue-based discussions between elected leaders and the electorate

Introduction

The Kiongozi Maskani is an open discussion between elected leaders and their electorate, especially youth, women, and PWDs. Convened at the community level, elected leaders and the electorate have candid discussions on the constitutional mandate of the elected leader and emerging governance issues for redress. HURIA initiated the Kiongozi Maskani to address communities' complaints over elected leaders' inaccessibility to respond to emerging concerns.

Change Realized

Between July 2023- April 2024, HURIA convened 29 Kiongozi Maskani sessions where 15 elected leaders (12 MCA, 3 MPs) engaged with 1103 community members (453 women, 687 youth, 25 PWDs).

Through the sessions, elected leaders broke bureaucratic hindrances and had an opportunity to demystify contentious governance issues affecting special interested groups. The sessions have thus far enabled communities to confidently speak on issues affecting them without fear of retribution, believing that their elected leaders will address their concerns.



CASE STUDY

Kiongozi Maskani:

Creating opportunities for issue-based discussions between elected leaders and the electorate

In the Kiongozi Maskani sessions, youth who had undergone government-led empowerment training flagged concerns over unequal access to economic opportunities such as local tenders and employment opportunities. Further, complaints of exclusion from accessing county facilities, bursary opportunities, and participation in public meetings were also raised in many of the forums and sessions conducted. Communities feel that there is selective identification of participants based on political affiliation. PWDs have been complaining loudly about the lack of interpretation and braille facilities in civic engagement processes in the county, which has mainly been hindering their meaningful participation.

The sessions have allowed for the prompt redress of governance concerns raised. Typical concerns addressed include the alleged corruption in accessing **NGAAF** application documents, selective mobilization of public participation meeting attendees, and alleged denial of access to social halls by ward administrators based on political affiliation. Thus far, youth-led organizations have tabled **two (2)** petitions at the county assembly, calling for better service delivery in the disbursement of county education bursaries. Whereas elected leaders promptly addressed governance concerns, there has been decreased apathy amongst youth, women, and PWDs to engage in governance processes.

The Kiongozi Maskani has also eased political tensions between elected leaders and the electorate from different political groupings prominent in Tiwi, Waa-Ngombeni, and Bongwe-Gombato wards. This manifested through denied access to elected leaders, education, and livelihood opportunities for supporters of political opponents. From the Kiongozi Maskani, held in Tiwi and attended by Hajji, he highlights, "To me, the session created a platform for reconciliation. We all discussed and accepted that the election is over, and it is time to work together for our youth. The MCA frequently visits our Maskani. This was uncommon a few months ago because this location was known as a stronghold for his political opponent during the election.

The Kiongozi Maskani sessions progressively create a culture of issue-based, sanitized discussions between elected leaders and the electorate. Elected leaders, for instance, highlight that they are willing to engage because of the presence of an impartial third party that can ensure the discussions are carefully moderated for concrete talks to take place.



Acknowledgment

A special thank you to USAID through ACT! for their support in strengthening the capabilities of women, youth, and PWDs in Kwale so they can meaningfully engage in governance processes. These efforts are funded through the Kenya Electoral Conflicts Mitigation and Civic/Voter Education Support Program





b

Setting up Oversight Structures for the Mombasa Inspectorate Service Review and Amendment of Mombasa County Inspectorate Service Bill

HURIA is working with the Mombasa County Government to accelerate the enactment of the Mombasa County Inspectorate Service Bill. The bill provides for the development, administration, and management of the Mombasa County Inspectorate Office.

Specifically, HURIA is supporting the legal drafting process to embed an independent oversight and accountability body that will receive and address complaints from the public on the conduct of inspectorate officers. HURIA is also keen on promoting complementarity between the inspectorate and the national government law enforcement structure.

The bill is currently in advanced stages of development, with expected review by relevant county assembly committees and Mombasa County citizens through the public participation processes.



Acknowledgment A special thank you to UKAID through Tetrattech for their support in strengthening the Mombasa County Inspectorate's capacity to promote small traders' safety and security through community policing. These efforts are funded through the REINVENT program





C

Petition Legal Action against Kwale County Service Board



Rattled by the news of alleged grand corruption amounting to **Kes.48 Million**, by five brothers, who are also employees of the Kwale County Government; HURIA has petitioned the Kwale County Assembly to initiate investigations against the Kwale County Public Service Board on Nepotism. Upon affirmation of these allegations, the County Assembly of Kwale should initiate the process to disband the County Public Service Board subject to **section 58 (5) b of the County Government Act**.

HURIA has also lodged a formal complaint to the **National Cohesion and Integration Commission (NCIC)** requesting that they investigate the conduct of the Kwale County Public Service Board to establish the alleged contravention of the standards, values, and principles set out in **Article 10, 27 (4), 56 (c), and 231 (1) of the Constitution of Kenya**.

d

Rapid Assessment

on the Impact of the Doctor's strike on Patients and their Right to Health

Ten days after the nationwide doctors' strike commenced on **March 15th**, HURIA issued an online survey to assess the impact of the doctors' strike on citizens' right to health.

The survey findings illustrated how the flow of patients to hospitals remained high despite the ongoing Doctor's strike. Patients going to public hospitals could not access services and were attended to by clinical officers. Patients resorted to private hospitals to access medical care despite the high costs. Surprisingly, most of those participating in the survey highlighted their support for the Doctor's strike, indicating that the Government should honor their commitment to doctors.

HURIA notes that **Article 41** of the constitution guarantees every worker the right to fair remuneration and reasonable working conditions to join, form, or participate in trade union activities and to go on strike. Moreover, Doctors can exercise their constitutional right to protest without disrupting access to emergency and critical services.





Our Focus



Resilience, Peace, and Security

Issue 001, January- April 2024



The Problems We Seek to Address

HURIA seeks to advance the whole of society and the whole of government approach in preventing and mitigating conflict and violence across the coast region of Kenya. Non-traditional peace actors, including the private sector, content creators, marginalized women, and youth, have limited capacity, resources, and networks to engage in peace and security efforts meaningfully.





How we intervened



Social Media Innovation Lab 2024

Convenes Young Content Creators to Lead the way in Digital Peace building

Recognizing how social media is used to perpetuate hate and divisive narratives, HURIA built the capacity of content creators to develop and disseminate alternative narratives in support of social cohesion.

Key topics covered in the training included a conceptual understanding of hate speech, misinformation, and disinformation, Kenya's legal framework regarding hate speech, digital conflict dynamics, and how hate and polarizing content have manifested in social media platforms, mainly targeting the coastal population.

Dorcas Rotto, one of the youth participating in the training, shared that "The Social Media Innovation LAB was particularly enlightening, showcasing the power of art and entertainment as tools to craft and spread positive narratives. What I loved most

about the Lab was that the sessions were coupled with the emphasis on personal storytelling by influencers, underscoring the importance of humanizing our digital

interactions and building a resilient community against divisive narratives. The training made it clear that fighting online hate and extremism isn't just about removing content; it's about strategic communication and the impactful sharing of stories and ideas. My participation has given me invaluable insights and skills to foster an inclusive digital environment where diversity thrives free from hate or extremism."

With support from HURIA, The engaged content creators have designed social media campaigns that will roll out in the coming months on various platforms.





b

HURIA Hosts UN-Women Delegation

Accelerating the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda



HURIA was honored to host a delegation from the UN Women, Women, Peace, and Security unit. HURIA, together with its partners got to share efforts to accelerate the WPS agenda at the policy level and the community level.

The UN-Women team interacted with government officers from the Ministry of Interior, Probation, and Gender departments. In this meeting, HURIA got to share partnerships with the government to end violence against women and girls. Our partners, Kwale Focus

CBO, also shared strategies to mainstream gender in preventing violent extremism.

The UN-Women delegation got to interact with four women-led organizations that HURIA has supported through technical and financial assistance to lead peace and security efforts at the local level. Al-Noor Women Group, Nawiri CBO, Grassroot Women's Right Center, and Sauti ya Wanawake showcased how they continue to amplify the voices of women in peace and security spaces in Msambweni, Kinango, Lunga Lunga and Matuga sub-counties.





Our Work with Women Peace and Security in Kwale County

Accelerating the Women, Peace, and Security Agenda

Disrupting the Rings of Terror in School

21

Amani Clubs Strengthened

40

Teachers trained

1803

Students reached

Amplified women led efforts to address emerging insecurity concerns

6

Women Led Groups Supported

\$25,000

given directly to women led groups at the community level

Provided Psychosocial Support and Mentorship to

500+

women and girls in Conflict with the law

Sustained provision of mentorship support to

300+

women and young girls to take up leadership positions at the local level

1078

Women and Youth trained on Conflict Prevention and Management

1181

Community members directly sensitized on the inclusion of women in peace and security

3

Gender-responsive policies and legal frameworks on Supported

Kwale County Sexual and Gender Based Violence Prevention and Protection Act, 2023
Kwale County Action Plan on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
Kwale County Action Plan on Women, Peace and Security

Strengthened coordination of peace and security structures

Kwale County Engagement Forum on Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism
Kwale County Gender Technical Working Group

2

Knowledge Frameworks developed

Women Participation Framework in Preventing Violent Extremism
Pocket Dictionary: Lexicon of Terminologies used in the PCVE Discourse





CASE STUDY

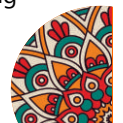
Fostering Collaboration in Implementing County Action Plans on PCVE: Lessons from the Ideological Pillar, Kwale County

Summary: While the Kenyan County Action Plan (CAP) model has been hailed as a marker of success for effective localized prevention efforts, implementation has suffered several challenges. Amongst these is the poor collaboration of stakeholders in the county coordination structures. This impedes peer learning and limits proper evaluation of CAP implementation progress.

This case study highlights promising practices in fostering partnership and collaboration amongst various stakeholders in preventing and countering violent extremism. The study focuses on the Ideological pillar of the County Engagement Forum on PCVE in Kwale County.

Background: In September 2023, Kwale County launched its 3-year action plan to prevent and counter violent extremism. The county action plan proposes local initiatives to prevent and respond to contextual drivers that provide fertile ground for radicalization and recruitment.

The County Action Plan creates the County Engagement Forums (CEF). The CEF is a coordination body co-chaired by the County Commissioner and County Governor. It brings together state and non-state actors committed to building safe and resilient communities against radicalization and violent extremism. The CEF is a platform for cross-learning and experience sharing amongst individuals and organizations working on PCVE.





CASE STUDY

Fostering Collaboration in Implementing County Action Plans on PCVE: Lessons from the Ideological Pillar, Kwale County

To promote closer coordination amongst stakeholders, the CEF creates pillar committees. The Kwale County CEF has five pillar committees: Law Enforcement, Media, Ideological, Psychosocial, and Education.

The Ideological Pillar: The Ideological pillar of the Kwale CEF seeks to shrink the pool of radicalization and recruitment into Violent extremist groups through the sharing of alternative narratives.

The pillar is chaired by Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance, an independent not-for-profit national youth network with a mandate to empower young Muslims through constructive engagement and participation in nurturing democratic, healthy, peaceful, and just societies for all.

Other members of the pillar include Coast Interfaith Council of Clerics, Kaya Elders, Supreme Council of Kenya Muslims, Sauti ya Wanawake Matuga, Kenya Community Support Centre, Human Rights Agenda, Inter-Religious Council of Kenya, Kenya Muslim Development Initiative.

The Challenge: In various contexts, the County Engagement Forums and pillar committees are inactive. This is manifested through no-shows in coordination meetings and isolation in conducting PCVE initiatives. This is due to a myriad of reasons, including a limited understanding of the county action plan model and how this relates to their daily work, Unclear division of roles and parameters of engagement, and unclear timelines and scheduling of meetings amidst competing priorities.





Strategies to Promote Coordination

To address the above challenges, the ideological pillar members have devised and implemented the strategies below:

a. Stakeholder engagement in drafting the county action plan

During the design of the 2023 Annual Kwale County Action Plan on PCVE (KCAP-PCVE), the ideological pillar convened several times to jointly design and develop initiatives within the pillar. In this process, members committed to supporting various activities highlighted in the county action plans.

The engagement of all members in the drafting stage of the KCAP-PCVE enhanced stakeholder ownership of the document and increased their willingness to engage in its implementation.

b. Continuous stakeholder mapping

Kwale County has an array of religious leaders and religious-based organizations working to prevent violent extremism. The ideological pillar conducts monthly mapping of stakeholders engaged in these efforts to ensure no one is left behind in the discussion. The mapping is conducted during the monthly pillar meetings. When an individual or organization is identified as a potential member, the office of the county commissioner invites them as members of the CEF.

c. Clear scheduled for pillar meetings

The ideological pillar meets monthly. The pillar has set aside a specific day for the meetings each month, for example, the last Saturday of every month. As a result, all pillar members are aware of the meeting dates well and can plan their schedules to ensure meeting participation.

d. Division of Roles and Responsibilities

The Ideological pillar has executed the division of roles and responsibilities among pillar members. The pillar head, for example, is responsible for coordinating activities, including meetings, and tracking progress through the compilation of reports. Additionally, the pillar has an appointed vice chair, who takes on the chairperson's responsibility in their absence.

To enhance the ownership and commitment of members, the pillar conducts rotational convening of pillar meetings. Each month, a different pillar member hosts a meeting and is responsible for planning, mobilizing, and developing a report.

e. Joint Implementation of Activities

The ideological pillar has put up a plan for implementing joint activities or visiting partner activities at the end of every quarter. This promotes participation in the pillar as members feel involved and valued as essential actors in PVE.





“Coordination of various actors is not an easy feat. As a pillar, we have faced multiple setbacks in the past. These positive changes are a testament to each member's commitment to creating a safer Kwale County. A key growth factor has been allowing all members to voice their opinions and actively contribute to decision-making.”

Mohammed Ratili

Ideological pillar head, Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance

f. Online coordination platforms

The pillar head has created an online chat platform for effective communication and follow-ups. Members are encouraged to share snippets of photos and videos on their community initiatives.

g. Clear Leadership structure

The ideological pillar is chaired by the Kenya Muslim Youth Alliance (KMYA). As a lead pillar organization, KMYA has designated two (2) people who are responsible for coordinating the pillar. This has worked well in building and fostering relationships amongst pillar members. Organizations represented in the pillar are also encouraged to identify specific people to engage in the pillar, which contributes to fostering institutional memory.

The noteworthy contributions of the Ideological Pillar did not go unnoticed. Following the County Engagement Forum (CEF) meeting in January 2024, the Ideological Pillar received recognition for its exceptional efforts in conducting and reporting activities within the fusion system. This acknowledgment underscores the pillar's commitment to establishing a sustainable framework for countering violent extremism and nurturing lasting peace within the community.

Acknowledgment

These efforts are supported through the Accelerated Response Initiative against Violent Extremism project (ARIVE) implemented by Human Rights Agenda with financial support from the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF). The project aims to improve collaboration and coordination of the county engagement forum on PCVE.



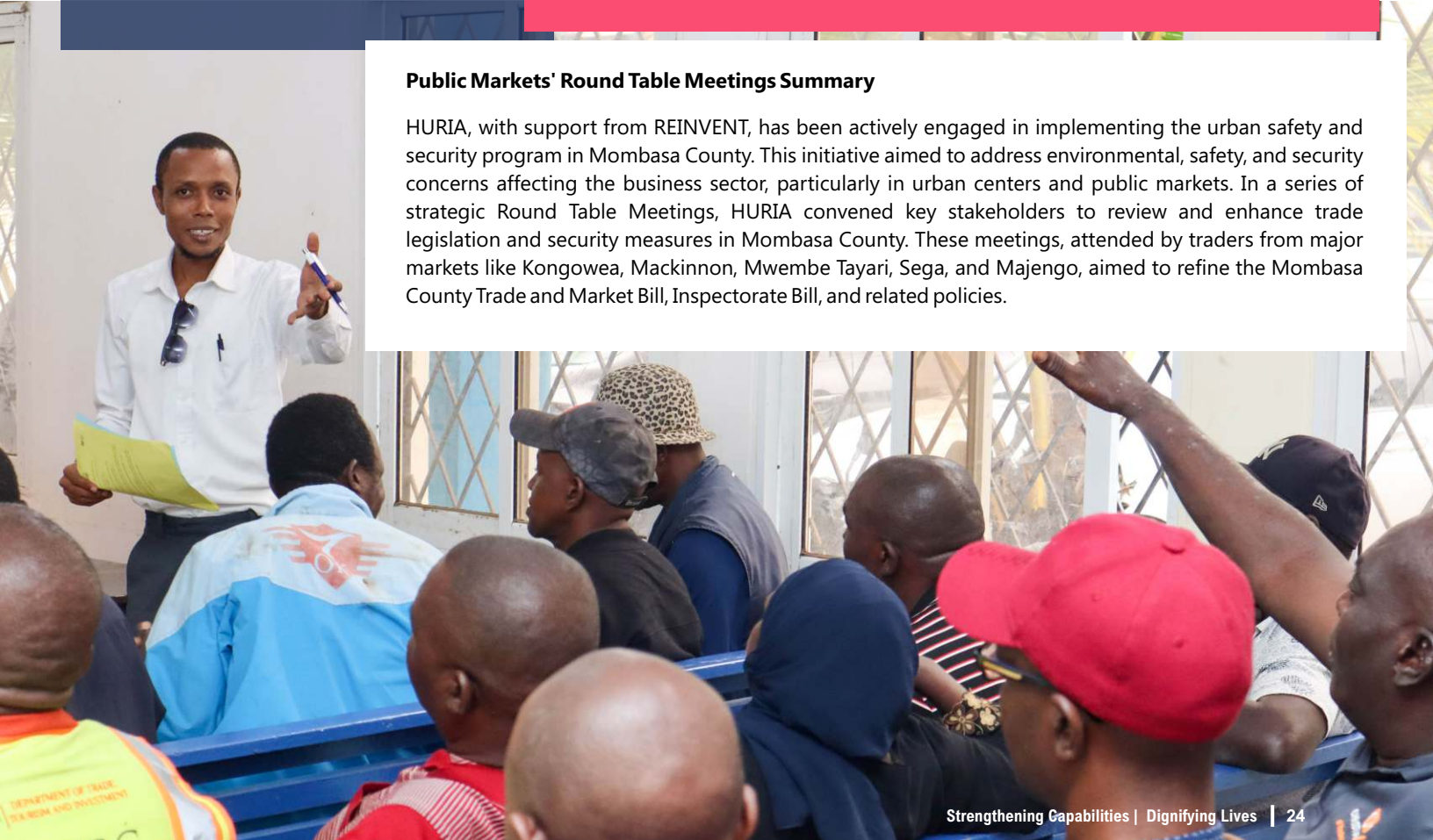


CASE STUDY

Urban Safety and Security: The Case of Public Markets in Mombasa County

Public Markets' Round Table Meetings Summary

HURIA, with support from REINVENT, has been actively engaged in implementing the urban safety and security program in Mombasa County. This initiative aimed to address environmental, safety, and security concerns affecting the business sector, particularly in urban centers and public markets. In a series of strategic Round Table Meetings, HURIA convened key stakeholders to review and enhance trade legislation and security measures in Mombasa County. These meetings, attended by traders from major markets like Kongowea, Mackinnon, Mwembe Tayari, Sega, and Majengo, aimed to refine the Mombasa County Trade and Market Bill, Inspectorate Bill, and related policies.





CASE STUDY

Urban Safety and Security: The Case of Public Markets in Mombasa County

The Round Table Meetings served as vibrant forums for collaboration, fostering open dialogue and constructive engagement among participants. Facilitated by HURIA, these sessions harnessed the collective wisdom and expertise of attendees to generate actionable recommendations tailored to the unique needs of Mombasa County. Participants, representing a spectrum of backgrounds and perspectives, contributed valuable insights, ensuring that proposed legislative enhancements were comprehensive and inclusive.

The meetings garnered widespread participation and enthusiasm, reflecting a shared commitment to fortifying the legislative framework to support business

resilience and economic growth. Notably, traders expressed appreciation for the opportunity to actively engage in shaping the legislative landscape, citing the importance of addressing critical gaps to foster a conducive business environment.

Beyond refining legislation, the Round Table Meetings served as catalysts for collaboration and partnership-building among stakeholders. By fostering cross-sectoral dialogue and forging alliances, these gatherings laid a solid foundation for implementing sustainable security measures and inclusive decision-making processes.

As discussions unfolded, it became evident that addressing market-specific challenges required tailored approaches and targeted interventions. Participants emphasized the importance of prioritizing the unique needs of each market and fostering trust through transparent and inclusive practices.

In conclusion, the Round Table Meetings orchestrated by HURIA exemplify a collaborative approach to advancing trade and security objectives in Mombasa County. Through robust legislative frameworks and collective action, stakeholders are poised to chart a course towards inclusive prosperity and community resilience.





CASE STUDY

Urban Safety and Security: The Case of Public Markets in Mombasa County

On the 19th of April, HURIA was able to organize a Governor's round table meeting, where it sought to facilitate dialogue and collaboration between small-scale traders and the county government of Mombasa. The meeting had several objectives, including providing a platform for traders to voice their concerns and recommendations, fostering dialogue between traders and relevant authorities, identifying opportunities for improvement in safety and security, and developing actionable recommendations for addressing key challenges in business operations.

The round table meeting was attended by more than 50 stakeholders. They included key duty bearers from the **County Government of Mombasa**, specifically the **Deputy Governor of Mombasa**, the **County Attorney**, the **County Executive Committee Member (CECM) for Tourism, Trade, Culture and Investments**, his **Chief Officer**, **Director of Investments**, the **County Inspectorate**, **Deputy County Commissioner (DCC)** and **Assistant County Commissioner (ACC) of Mvita Sub-County**, among others, and representatives from the five major markets of the County of Mombasa, comprising of Kongowea, Mackinnon, Mwembe Tayari, Sega, and Majengo. REINVENT partners were also present.





CASE STUDY

Urban Safety and Security: The Case of Public Markets in Mombasa County



A presentation made by the HURIA Team highlighted its observations concerning Mombasa's urban safety and security, and matters of service delivery. This was followed by representatives from each of the five main markets being given the platform to address the gathering. Each spokesperson, serving as the chairperson, illuminated the specific difficulties encountered within their respective markets.

Emphasizing a multi-agency approach, the government officials who took the floor stressed the importance of providing critical safety information to reduce crime. They reiterated their commitment to empowering traders, ensuring convenient business operations, and improving living standards, underscoring that ensuring security requires collective commitment and effort from all stakeholders.



The roundtable meeting effectively brought together traders, government officials, and stakeholders to tackle trade, safety, and security challenges in Mombasa County. Market representatives illuminated market-specific issues, guiding targeted interventions. Government officials pledged concrete actions, including market renovations and security enhancements. These outcomes underscore the power of collaboration in fostering a conducive trading environment, laying the groundwork for ongoing initiatives in Mombasa County.





Get to Know Us — #TeamHURIA



In our first edition of “Get to Know Our Team” we are delighted to introduce our new Head of Programmes and Capacity Development at HURIA;

Ms. Agnes Mwambila. Our Editorial Team had an fascinating interview with her.

1) How long have you worked for HURIA and how has your journey thus far been?

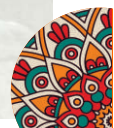
I have worked with HURIA for over 6 years now. I joined as an intern in 2018. It has been a journey of a lot of learning and growing beyond my comfort zone. Working with HURIA has allowed me to really engage meaningfully as an active member for society. Not only as a human rights defender, but also as a peace-builder, a leader, a community mobilizer, a mentor amongst many other roles.

2) Tell us briefly about your new position? What does it entail?

I am currently serving as the head of programs and capacity development. My core business in this role is to help the team navigate the complexities of designing and implementing various projects. Mainly to ensure that we are helping to solve the problems that the communities we serve are facing in a way that is innovative, cost-effective, collaborative and promotes accountability across the board.



**AGNES
MWAMBILA**
Head of Programs
& Organization Capacity
Development Manager



Get to Know Us — #TeamHURIA

3) How do you feel about your new position as the Head of Programmes and Capacity Development?

I am enjoying the process so far. This is my first-time leading sitting in a managerial role in an NGO. So, I have had to pick up lessons as they come, and I am loving the person I am becoming, both career wise and at a personal level.

4) What is it that you are keen to achieve as the new Head of Programmes for HURIA?

I am very keen on reshaping how we tell our stories as HURIA. I believe we have an innovative and unique model in how we work. This has allowed us to create impact amongst the various community groups that we support. I would like to develop and disseminate these stories so that individuals and organizations can pick on good practices, and hopefully deepen their support to Human Rights Advocacy work at the Coast of Kenya.

5) What do you love most about your job?

I find it fulfilling to meet people who are committed to social change, and are hopeful and determined to create a better society. I get to meet them, I get to connect with them, and I get to learn from them. It's always a gratifying experience.

6) What would your perfect weekend look like?

A perfect weekend for me includes a walk with my daughter and a very good movie.



AGNES MWAMBILA

Head of Programmes & Organization Capacity Development Manager

7) What's something surprising that not many people know about you?

I love poetry and music. Am amazed at how poets and song writers are able to use and structure words to share such impactful stories and messages.

8) What is the most important lesson that you've learned from working with the team?

One thing I have learned working with HURIA, is giving the best in whatever you do. Whatever task, whatever assignment given do it like the world depends on you. And always put your best foot forward in everything.



We would love to hear from you

We would like to partner and work with interested individuals, organizations, and networks working on the four thematic areas highlighted in this newsletter.

Feel free to reach out to the below contacts if you require more information on the work that we do.

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