INTRODUCTION

 Kenya is a very youthful country. Those aged between 18 and 35 make up approximately 75% of Kenya's population, unfortunately a large percentage of this population is unemployed and feel marginalised in terms of access to opportunities, representation and participation
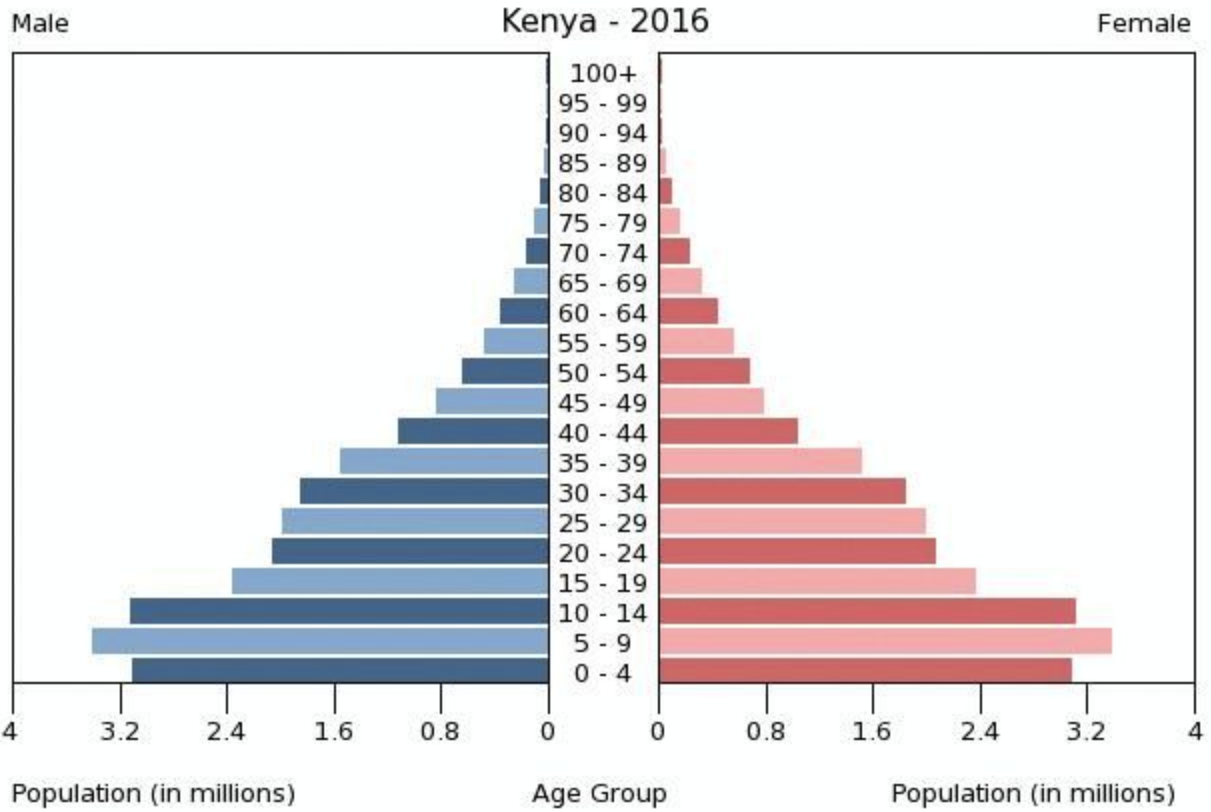
Age structure: 0-14 years: 40.87% (male 9,592,017/female 9,532,032)

15-24 years: 18.83% (male 4,398,554/female 4,411,586)

25-54 years: 33.54% (male 7,938,111/female 7,755,128)

55-64 years: 3.84% (male 819,665/female 976,862)

65 years and over: 2.92% (male 590,961/female 775,842) (2016 est.

Male | Kenya - 2016 | Female

Population (in millions) — Age Group — Population (in millions)

source kenya Age structure

CHALLENGES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE IN KENYA

i. Employment creation

There are about 500,000 youth who graduate from various tertiary institutions yearly ready to enter the job market every year. However, due to the slow economic growth, corruption, nepotism and demand for experience by potential employers, 75% remain unemployed.

Table 1: Unemployment rates (%) in Kenya by Age Group and Sex, 1998/99–2009

Age brackets	1998/99			2005/06			2009		
	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female
Total (rural + urban)									
15-19	24.3	21.8	26.4	25.0	22.4	27.7	15.8	16.5	15.1
20-24	27.1	19.0	33.9	24.2	21.0	27.3	13.1	13.6	12.6
15-64	14.6	9.8	19.3	12.7	11.2	14.3	8.6	8.8	8.3
Urban									
15-19	47.0	56.2	42.8	16.1	15.1	16.8	27.2	29.4	25.5
20-24	47.3	27.2	58.7	34.9	33.7	35.8	19.1	17.7	20.4
25-29	25.1	9.0	38.8	24.8	24.6	24.9	10.9	9.4	12.7
30-34	14.3	4.8	27.5	8.0	8.0	7.9	7.6	6.5	9.2
15-64	25.1	12.5	38.1	19.9	15.0	25.9	11.0	-	-
Rural									
15-19	15.9	14.3	17.8	21.3	22.2	20.5	13.0	13.8	12.0
20-24	15.1	15.5	14.5	30.7	29.3	32.0	9.9	11.4	8.5
25-29	8.6	7.6	9.5	17.8	17.1	18.5	6.9	8.0	5.8
30-34	8.2	4.8	10.9	8.6	8.1	9.1	5.6	6.3	4.9
15-64	9.4	8.3	10.4	9.8	9.5	10.2	5.6	-	-

Sources: Central Bureau of Statistics – Kenya (2003), Kenya National Bureau of Statistics (2008) and computations from the 2009 Kenya Population and Housing Census data.

ii. Empowerment and Participation

One of the greatest challenges in Youth Empowerment and participation is how to ensure that young people are passionate about causing transformation in Kenya. Youth Empowerment and Participation is the quit essential force for causing such transformation.
Young people need a youth branded platform from where they can speak powerfully, take appropriate action, and inspire belief that will have a catalytic impact all over the country through youth-led development initiatives. Youth empowerment and participation is a dynamic cycle.
Overall, it is anticipated that the outcome of Youth Empowerment and participation is strong contribution to National prosperity, economic competition and reduced unemployment. When

empowered, young people can contribute greatly towards good governance and democracy with a passionate desire to be catalyst for National Development.

iii. Health

The uneven distribution of health facilities in the country continues to widen disparities in affordability and access to medical care. Statistics indicate that only 42% of the population has access to medical facilities within four kilometers and 75% within eight kilometers. Medical personnel are also too few to sufficiently address the health needs of the population, let alone those of the youth. Currently there is one doctor for every 33,000 people in the rural areas and 1,700 in the urban areas and it is estimated that only 12% of the health facilities are youth friendly.

Health has become a major issue among the youth. Apart from the traditional health problems like malaria, tuberculosis and the more conservative sexually transmitted diseases, the exponential spread of HIV/AIDS and drug abuse have become issues of major concern.
Mental health is increasingly becoming a common problem among the youth. Depression, anxiety, eating disorders, psychosis and substance abuse are also becoming leading mental problems among the youth.

Furthermore, reproductive health is one of the issues with the greatest impact on the youth. Some related problems and side effects include teenage pregnancies and abortion

Table 1 shows the results for key indicators for 2015. These estimates are similar to those produced in previous years.

Table 1. National HIV estimates for 2015	
Indicator	**2015**
People living with HIV (all ages)	1.5 (1.3 - 1.7) million
Annual new HIV infections (all ages)	77,600 (58,533 - 111,870)
Annual AIDS-related deaths (all ages)	35, 800 (27,000-47,000)
HIV prevalence (adults aged 15-49)	5.91% (5.23-6.84 %)
HIV incidence (adults 15-49)	0.35% (0.26-0.51%)
Adult 15+ living with HIV	1,420,000 (1,250,000-1,620,000)
Annual new HIV infections (Adult 15+)	71,000 (54,000-101,000)
Annual AIDS-related deaths (Adult 15+)	30,800 (23,300-40,500)
Adult 15+ need for ART	1,240,000 (1,110,000-1,400,000)
Children (0-14 years) living with HIV	98,200 (82,200-117,300)
Annual new HIV infections (Children 0-14)	6,610 (4,080-9,910)
Annual AIDS-related deaths (Children 0-14)	5,000 (3,510-6,760)
Children (0-14 years) need for ART	93,100 (79,600-110,000)
HIV prevalence (young adults 15-24); male	2.26 (1.64-3.19)
HIV prevalence (young adults 15-24); female	3.97 (3.26-5.12)
Annual new HIV infections (young adults 15-24); male	12,500 (8,270-19,000)
Annual new HIV infections (young adults 15-24); female	23,300 (17,400-33,000)
Annual AIDS deaths (young adults 15-24)	3,850 (2,650-5,750)
Adolescents living with HIV (10-19)	133,000 (114,000-162,000)
Annual new HIV infections (adolescents 10-19)	18,000 (10,500-29,500)
Annual AIDS deaths (adolescents 10-19)	2,790 (2,110 - 3,710)
Mothers needing PMTCT	79,500 (70,100 - 91,200)
EMTCT rate	8.3%

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iv. Education and training

The 8-4-4 system of education was geared to imparting appropriate skills to enhance self-employment.However to the high costs, poverty and lack of facilities, there have been high school dropout rates.

The country's training institutions are also either inadequate or lack the essential facilities and technology to prepare students for the challenging market demands.
Recently, sub-standard training institutions have come up to take advantage of shortage of training opportunities to exploit desperate youth. In most cases, there is no linkage between the training institutions and either the formal or informal (jua kali) sector. The youth trained in these institutions cannot, therefore, be immediately absorbed into the job market.

v. Crime and Drugs

The early mid 1980's saw a rapid growth in crime, drug and substance abuse among the youth in Kenya. Alcohol, cigarettes, khat (miraa), and cannabis sativa have remained the most popular abused substances in the country.
There is a fast emerging trend of injecting drug use especially narcotic. Moreover, abuse of drugs is highly associated with the risks of contracting HIV/Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases especially among the youth.

Violent criminal attacks, including rape, mugging, armed carjacking and home invasions are increasingly being associated with the youth these days. Over 50% of all the convicted criminals are young people aged between 16 and 25 years.

NACADA | DRUG FACTS
http://nacada.go.ke/?page_id=309

blob:https://www.youtube.com/f7a8c233-1fdb-42c9-b919-1b6204287962

Kenya Struggles with Rising Alcoholism

A crowd gathers to watch an intoxicated youth as a police officer c Kenya. Credit: Miriam Gathigah/IPS

vi. Leisure, recreation, and community service

Leisure, recreation and community service are important for the psychological and physical development of the youth. It contributes to their personal development by promoting good health, personal discipline, leadership and team building skills. It also provides opportunity for appreciation, participation and creative experience in leisure, music, art, dance, drama crafts, novelty events service and cultural activities.
This helps engaging the youth to make good use of their leisure time, express their beliefs and values as well as promote and preserve local art and culture for the benefit of the future youth.

However, current investment in leisure and recreation has not reflected its importance. The sector suffers from inadequate funds and facilities while the talented youth lack motivation and are often exploited by organizations. Due to these constraints, it has not been possible to tap fully the talents of many youth.

vii. Youth and Environment
Degradation of the environment, through pollution, poor waste management and deforestation, is a major challenge for Kenya. With the ensuing destruction of water catchments, depletion of fish and

other marine stock, pollution of rivers and destruction of plants and animals, the youth cannot be assured of quality life in the future

The need to conserve the environment has become increasingly important and many youth organizations are engaged in activities to protect the environment such as tree planting, clean-up campaigns, biodiversity conservation, wildlife preservation campaigns and agroforestry

The figure above shows how we were involved in tree planting at the university of Nairobi vet farm kanyariri.

source :University of Nairobi tree planting at KANYARIRI

viii. Information and Communication Technology

Information and Communication Technology (ICT) may arguably be the most powerful tool for social and economic change. Rapid and continuing growth and development in ICT is transforming the ways in which youth live and work.

Using internet for example, youth can get access to both domestic and international education and job opportunities on line.

Due to lack of access to information and communication technology (ICT) especially in rural areas, youth cannot exploit their career, business and education opportunities.

ix. Youth with Special Needs

The categories of youths with special needs have been identified as the: Unemployed youth; Out of school youth; Female youth; Youth infected and affected by HIV/Aids; Street youth; physically, and mentally challenged youth; and Youth in difficult circumstances.

x. Access to Financial Resources

Traditional financial institutions have avoided lending to youth due to their relative inability to comply with the high transaction costs, difficulty in assessing and managing their risk profile, and lack of the required financial documentation as well as collateral.

This are just but a few of the challenges the youth face in their day to day lives as they try survive and reach their dreams. Hopefully a solution can be found to the problem of the youth. This may include the launch of more youth groups and support from the government and non-governmental organizations.

One such organizations trying to find solutions to problems of the youth is the moraa foundation.The try to do the following to improve the lives of the youth:

1. Develop policies that will address unemployment problems and create an environment where the youth can exploit their potential through value adding initiatives.
2. Be a catalyst for youth empowerment and participation.
3. Collaborate with other stakeholders to research and come up with policies that would assist youth in this country overcome the challenge of crime, drug and substance abuse among the youth in Kenya.
4. To take advantage of benefits associated with ICT to foster youth development.
5. Help the youth to be able to work towards the realization of their life goals that were hindered before by the tough regulations that in the past barred them from accessing credit facilities from financial institutions.

Reference : moraafoundation.org

Tags: youth tertiary skills Category: Education News

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST YOUNG PEOPLE IN THEIR EXERCISE OF THEIR RIGHTS

1 DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION ESTABLISHMENT

Childhood, adolescence and the transition to adulthood is a fundamental period for all of us in our development. The education we receive and the experiences we have in these establishments help shape our perceptions of the world, the way we interact with others and help determine our careers and well-being. For many, this is a time of positive learning. Yet for others, their experiences and the way they are treated by peers, teachers and institutions as a whole can be devastating, seriously and negatively affecting their health and future prospects.

This can particularly be the case for young or those who are still in the process of discovering themselves. Equally, people from different ethnic or racial groups, as well as those from specific religious groups, can experience a range of discrimination, bullying and harassment. The types of discrimination that such youths experience may often be of a similar nature even though the root causes and the reactions to such discrimination may well differ. Thus whether because of their sexual orientation, gender identity or their racial/ ethnic origin, young people are teased, ridiculed, name called, put in fear, physically harmed and made to feel isolated. Such harassment and bullying also takes place purely based on assumptions about the person, irrespective of their actual sexual orientation, gender identity or ethnic origin. The education materials used in schools, the focus of lesson plans and the policies of schools can also act to isolate and alienate individuals. With respect to education materials, these can often fail to reflect the diversity of the society they represent. The lack of recognition of each of these groups within the institutional framework contributes to the isolation and invisibility of young people from those groups, and can ultimately encourage distrust and discrimination by others . Worryingly, for all groups, prejudices and discrimination are exhibited, not just by students, but also by teachers through for example insults, threatening behaviour, threats of bad marks, and insults about parents.

2 DISCRIMINATION IN THE WORKPLACE

 As with educational establishments, ethnic minority youths, the workplace can be a place of torment and frustration. There they may face bullying and harassment through insults, jokes, being put in fear and physical injury. Their progress, in terms of promotion can be slowed or prevented and ultimately they can lose their jobs because of their personal characteristics With respect to discrimination based on ethnic or racial grounds, labour market discrimination is considered as a major and widespread phenomenon, resulting in the disadvantage of certain groups in the country.

Young people are often paid less than adults for doing the same job.Junior wages undervalue their contributions and may face harassment as targets of violence

and unlawful termination. Because young people may fear losing their jobs ,they often feel they cannot complain of discrimination.

3 Discrimination against Youth Voice in Language

- "Act your age."
- "Children should be seen and not heard."
- "What do you know, you're just a kid!"
- "Do as I say, not as I do."
- "You'll understand it someday, just you wait."

5 Discrimination against Youth Voice in School

Students are forced by law to attend schools that may not be effective.Classroom learning relies on adults as sole- holders of knowledge. Decisions about students ,including learning topics ,activities,punishments ,budgeting and teaching methods are routinely made without students.Adults routinely grade students without giving equal weight to students' perspectives on their own academic achievement.

Double-standards in treatment, including when the belief that when teachers yell at students, they are controlling classrooms; when students yell at teachers, they are creating unsafe learning environment

6 AGEISM

People under 18-years-old are virtual non-citizens without the right to vote or any tangible political representation and minimal influence.Community problem - solving routinely neglect youth members.Business policies allow for

discrimination ,such as 'Under -14s must be accompanied by adults ,' and ' Under 18s cannot be managers' .Media bias against youths that alternatively portrays youths as apathetic super- predators who are obese , stuck on computers , gang members

We know that sometimes in our society teenagers and senior citizens are not listened to or given as much respect as others. (**We know that is a generalization and that in some communities elders are valued for their experience and youth as the future!**). We know that this is totally untrue because anybody at any age can have good ideas and make good decisions especially if they have the right information!

7 SEXISM

Sexism is when someone is treated badly because of their sex, gender, or perceived gender. Equal rights between young men and women still do not exist. Although we've come a long way, there is still a long way to go. Therefore, when we talk about sexism, we almost always see this type of discrimination happen towards women.

All girls and women everywhere should have the freedom to:

- live free from sexual assault;
- access birth control (including ECP);
- have control over their bodies at all times(including during pregnancy and sex);
- choose abortion, adoption, and parenting without pressure or bias from others;
- be paid equally for equal work;
- be treated with respect and dignity at all times.

8 HOMOPHOBIA

Homophobia is when someone is treated badly because of their sexual orientation. Sadly, in our society if someone identifies as gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, or two-spirit, they can face harassment. This behaviour usually comes out of the belief that being gay is wrong, or that if

someone really wanted to, they could change and not be gay anymore. This is simply not true! Can you imagine if someone who was straight was expected to all of a sudden completely change who they were attracted to and be gay? It doesn't seem too likely does it? And there is nothing wrong with being gay anyways! People have the right to be attracted to whoever they want, and live as whatever gender they want, free of harassment.

Our society often doesn't think about the power of words, and how bad they can make someone feel. For example, we often hear people saying the phrase, "that's so gay," to describe something negative. If someone was gay and constantly heard that being gay was not good they can start to feel pretty badly about themselves. It's the same as someone saying, "that's retarded," to describe something negative. Again, if someone was dealing with a cognitive disability , they can start to feel pretty badly.

The point is that all of us need to work to make things as safe and welcoming for everyone, so people can openly be who they are without dealing with harassment and feeling bad about themselves

9 ABLEISM

Ableism is when someone is treated badly because of a disability that they live with.

A good example is from our students organisation ie Students Organisation of Nairobi University (SONU),whereby positions for students with disabilities were occupied by undisable student leaders this led to disbandment of SONU to UNSA (University of Nairobi Students Association) to stop the menace

For example, let's say you were in a wheelchair and you really wanted to go see a new movie. All of your friends were going, but then you found out that you couldn't go because the theatre didn't have wheelchair access. That would be unfair and is an example of ableism. We know that there is sometimes a belief that if someone is living with a disability, that they will never be interested in dating or having sex. This harmful belief may make it more difficult for a person living with a disability to access their basic rights around sexual health like condoms, birth control, information about consent, information about STIs etc. However, we know that every person in this world has a sexuality, and has every right to express it.

10 CLASSISM

Classism is when someone is treated badly because of their social standing or how much money they have. We know that in our society a lot of times young people get caught up in valuing how much money they have, what clothes they wear, and what kind of car they drive. Is this actually what makes them a great person? It can sometimes feel that way, but this is not true. It's how you treat the people that are around you as well as how true you stay to yourself that makes you cool.

For those of us that have money, things can be easier along the way. We may not face challenges that others might face. This doesn't make us bad people, and doesn't mean we should feel guilty, but it is important to be aware of our privilege. For those of us that don't have much money, we can sometimes have a tougher time along the way. It doesn't mean that we won't succeed, it just means that we might have more of a struggle to get there. The good news is that by facing and overcoming struggles, we build strength that other folks might never have and that that strength will help us with whatever we choose to do in our lives.

11 RACISM

Racism is when someone is treated badly because of the colour of their skin or where they come from. We know that not all skin colours are treated equally in our society. Racism can be seen as bigger than just one person, and is a whole system that is trying to put a group of people down (this is known as systemic racism.) It can be explained as a collective failure by a society as a whole to provide a safe and just environment to certain groups of people, based on their skin colour, culture, or ethnic background.

For example, young people from the Somali community or our Muslim brothers face higher rates of incarceration or police involvement. This is not because they are committing more crimes but because racism exists, these groups of people are more likely to be watched. Again the common Citizens also discriminate these particular people because they believe they are associated with terror groups .

Kenyan youths consider one another along their tribal lines ie in places of work, political positions etc.

ARE YOU AWARE OF POLICIES AND PROGRAMS AIMED AT SUPPORTING YOUNG PEOPLE TO REALISE THEIR RIGHTS?IF SO PLEASE DESCRIBE THEM

1 KENYA NATIONAL YOUTH POLICY

In the 1960s, the Government and other voluntary youth agencies did not target the youth in the development agenda. The Kenya Government started the National Youth Service, in 1964 and has supported it to date. Most other youth programmes are largely social and recreational in nature. In addition, they are urban-based. The current Government has taken a keen interest in youth issues in its efforts on national integration.

POLICY GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The overall goal of the policy is to promote youth participation in democratic processes as well as in community and civic affairs, and ensuring that youth programmes involve them and are youth-centred. The objectives of the policy are:

i. To sensitize national policy makers on the need to identify and mainstream youth issues in national development .

ii To emphasize, support and partner with positive and effective initiatives and programmes set up by associations, non-profits groups that help the youth to fulfill their expectations and meet their needs

 iii. To create proper conditions for the youth to empower themselves and exploit their potential

l iv. To identify ways of empowering the youth.

 v. To promote a culture of volunteerism among the youth

 vi. To explore and suggest ways of engaging the youth in the process of economic development

 vii. To identify constraints that hinder the Kenyan youth from realizing their potential

viii. To propose ways of mentoring the youth to be just and morally upright citizens

ix. To promote honest hard work and productivity among the youth.

x. To guarantee employment for those willing to work.

2 . KENYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS (K-YES) PROGRAM

The K-YES "My ID, My Life" campaign helps young people register for national identification cards. Without these cards, youth cannot open a bank account, register a business, access higher education or obtain formal employment. Photo: USAID

KENYA
KENYA YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND SKILLS PROGRAM (K-YES)

The majority of Kenya's population is under the age of 17 and struggling to find meaningful employment. This untapped demographic dividend of young Kenyans moving into their productive working years presents public and private sector stakeholders with both a challenge and an opportunity.

USAID's K-YES activity gives motivated but disenfranchised youth the skills and support they need to compete and succeed in the workplace. The activity connects young Kenyans to youth-friendly services (e.g., labor market information, financial institutions, and 21st century employability skills), allowing them to make informed and empowered decisions about their careers. With skills and vocational training designed in coordination with local industry, K-YES focuses on building local relationships and capacity to increase the efficiency, effectiveness, and sustainability of education and employment outcomes.

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3 KENYA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

Formed in 1997 by a group of professionals from different professional orientations who were concerned by the prevailing trends at the time in community.

Made a choice in the year 2003 to deepen its involvement and investment in Kenyan youth leading to the way in designing and implementing national initiatives that target youth development

The Education, Youth and Children's work aims to support innovative approaches to strengthening education access, retention, transition and improved learning outcomes for Primary, Secondary, Tertiary and out-of school youth.

The approach focuses on holistic development of children and youth into productive members of society as well as strengthening service delivery systems at the local level. The theme places emphasis on a multi-stakeholder approach to education & youth programming, capacity development, policy enhancement and promotion of entrepreneurship for out-of-school youth.

4 YOUTH FOR LIFE -KENYA

Youth for life-Kenya is a non-governmental organization established in 2004.The organization works solely with youth between the age of 10-35years based in Athi river and its environs. The main aim of the organization to facilitate the youth development capacity either as a group or an individual. The organization strives to reach out to the youth through mentorship programmes, HIV/Aids control, management and prevention programmes, and economic growth through poverty alleviation techniques, creation of income generating activities, vocational training and sexual and reproductive health awareness programmes. The organization also advocates for peace, justice, democracy and humanity through human rights awareness programmes.

5 Kenya National Youth Development and Training (KNYD&T)
What the project is about

Recognizing youth as Kenya's most critical untapped resource, the KNYD&T programme was developed to counter the myriad of challenges affecting the youth. The goal of this programme is to contribute to sustainable livelihoods for the Kenyan Youth through entrepreneurship development and support of Youth Polytechnics (YPs). This component focuses on empowering the youth and catalyzing competitive growth of trade by enhancing self-employment, and injecting a new breed of productive labour force into the country's economy in micro and small enterprises. This programme provides candidates with concrete hands-on business skills; inculcates entrepreneurial mindsets, stimulates and motivates them to establish and scale up own business into enterprises of scale and/or provide business consultancy services to other clients. The training is designed to transform the youth from being job seekers into job creators hence enabling them to be agents of change in their respective districts and/or constituencies. Additionally, the programme focuses on capacity building for the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.

6 KENYA HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

The Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) was founded in 1991 and registered in Kenya in 1994 as a national non-governmental organisation

(NGO). Throughout its existence, the core agenda of the Commission has been campaigning for the entrenchment of a human rights and democratic culture in Kenya. Its founders and staff are among the foremost leaders and activists in struggles for human rights and democratic reforms in Kenya. KHRC works at community level with human rights networks (HURINETS) across Kenya and links community, national and international human rights concerns.

Mandate

Enhancing human rights centred governance at all levels.

Vision

Our vision is a human rights state and society.

Mission

Our mission is to foster human rights, democratic values, human dignity and social justice.

This will be achieved through multiple strategies and actions aimed at entrenching human rights and democratic values in the society by facilitating and supporting individuals, communities and groups to claim and defend their rights and holding state and non-state actors accountable for the protection and respect of all human rights for all peoples and groups.

HOW ARE YOUTH ORGANISATIONS OR YOUTH LED STRUCTURES INVOLVED IN DEVELOPING ,IMPLEMENTING , MONITORING AND EVALUATING POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES ON YOUTH IN KENYA?

i. Sensitize national policy makers on the need to identify and mainstream youth issues in national development

Hundreds of girls attended at the YUSOM girls' empowerment basketball games in Eastliegh, click for more

Newly elected Kamukunji MP Yusuf Hassan talks to hundreds of youth in YUSOM organised youth straught talk to area politicians

ii. Emphasize, support and partner with positive and effective initiatives and programmes set up by associations, no-profits groups that help the youth to fulfill their expectations and meet their needs

iii. Create proper conditions for the youth to empower themselves and exploit their potential

iv. Identify ways of empowering the youth.

v. Promote a culture of volunteerism among the youth

Youths attend a peace demonstration in Kibera slum, Nairobi, ahead of the poll

 vi. Explore and suggest ways of engaging the youth in the process of economic development

 vii. Identify constraints that hinder the Kenyan youth from realizing their potential

 viii. Propose ways of mentoring the youth to be just and morally upright citizens

 ix. Promote honest hard work and productivity among the youth.

 x. Guarantee employment for those willing to work.

WHAT MEASURES AT INTERNATIONAL LEVEL WOULD FACILITATE OR SUPPORT THE REALISATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE'S' RIGHTS

1 International level should discuss ways to ensure the recognition of youth rights and their implementation at an international level develop UN's capacity to advance youths' rights and engage with a range of stakeholders to promote these rights.

2 A binding legal instrument is needed to enable youth to fully realise their rights, such an instrument could be an important way forward to recognise youth as agents and rights holders, and could also empower the youth rights movement to pressure governments towards change through creating international standards.

3 Form both national and international youth advisory panels to contribute to discussions and decisions within their organisations.

4 Advocate for sustainable welfare systems adapted to support young people, free of any kind of discrimination. In the equal access to housing, education, credit, universal health care cover and social protection, pay special attention to youth with fewer opportunities: minorities, migrants, people with diverse abilities, women .

5. Use existing Human rights instruments to address these specific challenges facing our youths at multiple levels to monitor and document widespread youth rights violation and abuses, provide advice on integrating rights provide technical support at all levels.

6 Training and capacity-building for law enforcement officials on human rights, the rule of law and the prevention of any form of youth discrimination.The trainees should consist of mainly youths and experienced personnel from youth organisations

7 Governments and International communities work together to ensure effective remedies in cases where preventive efforts failed. International communities should also work on efforts to improve regulatory frameworks to address such violations, and ensure countries adopt national action plans on youth rights. Remedies should be accessible, affordable,

adequate and timely, and rights holders seeking them should not fear victimization. They should be able to seek, obtain and enforce a "bouquet''. Such access require action by States, civil society and human rights defenders. Finally, an effective remedies could be sought through courts , parliaments.

ANY OTHER ISSUES YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE WITH WITH THE OHCHR

CONCLUSION

Youths tend to be naturally idealistic ,creative ,energetic .They are positioned to play a very important role in managing conflicts and differences.Where they are given adequate opportunities for positive involvement, they can be critical to ensuring longer term stability producing effective outcomes within the communities and offering protection from future conflicts

Discrimination against young people is rarely seen in the documentation solely as a function of their age , rather other factors such as gender for example are privileged as the main sources of discrimination

An approach that truly recognizes and values the positive potential of youth is therefore one that puts primarily emphasis on their role as promoters of peace and not as incitors of violence.