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**Deliberations Towards Scaling Up Nutrition Advocacy**



**Stakeholders following a discussion during the SUN-CSA Advocacy and Communication Sub-committee Meeting**

KANCO hosted SUN-CSA Advocacy and Communication Sub-Committee members on 9th August 2019. The bi-monthly meeting sought to review the Committee’s Terms of Reference (TORs), develop a road map and secure opportunities for the movement to take up towards scaling up the impact of nutrition interventions.

Making opening remarks, the Systems Strengthening Officer KANCO, Mr. Jack Ndegwa, noted the importance of frequent sub-committee engagements, and making sure that the goals of the meetings are on track, action points and timelines developed and tasked. The team noted that the TOR’s had not been reviewed since 2016, which they reviewed and updated inline with the current national and global nutrition agenda. They also updated the membership list and identified a contact person in every organization.

The committees further embarked on the development of a road map, with the review of existing literature being mandated to KANCO, Christian Aid and We World.

Representing Christian Aid, Mr. Charles, impressed on the need to consider the changes over the years as the team developed the TORs “The changes through the years should guide us in developing a full-round document, and with most of our responsibilities being to support, lets engage other sub-committees for referencing.” He also noted that all the documents prepared should be aligned with the National, Regional and Global nutrition agenda and commitments. He further proposed the development of an interactive work plan, for optimal participation of members in the set goals and for an integrated approach to nutrition.



Charles, from Christian Aid, giving his ideas during the meeting

The members further brainstormed on advocacy opportunities in upcoming conferences and high level meetings coming up later in the year including: TICAD 7, taking place on the 29th of August 2019 in Japan, where SUN-CSA will be represented by KANCO and Feed The Children, ahead of which the partners will share on movements priorities for meaningful representation.

Other noted opportunities were Eastern and Southern Africa - SUN (ESN); a workshop in Kenya, where Country experiences on Budgets Advocacy will be discussed, enhanc-

ing multi-sectorial approaches (MSPs), policies and engagements to improve Nutrition related targets, around 12th September, 2019, KNAP - National Launch and MSP workshops.

KANCO also shared updates from the Universal Periodic Review (UPR), an activity conducted by the United Nations every 5 years; member countries advice each other on areas they need to improve on, and a review of the implementation done, with current review taking place in 2019.

KANCO shared that they had submitted a nutrition review on behalf of civil societies in Kenya. Esther from KANCO took the team through the opportunities that lay in the activities, and how they can take advantage of them to push the nutrition agenda in Kenya. As a chance to influence other governments, SUN-CSA agreed to develop a pager, which can be presented to ambassadors in the country, and urge them to recommend nutrition as a necessity in Kenya.



Miss Esther Kagure, Program Assistant, Nutrition KANCO taking notes during the meeting

## Engaging the Business Community of Machakos County on TB



Mr. John Kivuwa, Eastern regional coordinator KANCO giving his remarks during the Annual General meeting of Mashabiki welfare group.

KANCO regional coordinator Mr. John Kivuwa, was invited to the annual general meeting of Mashabiki, in Katheka Kai Guest house outside Machakos town, led by Mr. Simon Kitheka, the Chairman of the Finance committee of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry On Saturday 20th, 2019, to share on health and TB,

Mashabiki is a social welfare group, organized by the Machakos business community with a membership of 210 top business people in the region; majority being members of the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Beyond the business discussions, the group also invites resource persons to share on issues affecting their members and the community at large, which led to KANCO's invitation, as a premier health advocacy organization to share on health updates.

The KANCO regional coordinator gave health talk with a special focus on TB. He shared that TB does not show symptoms until chest pains begins, which is roughly after three weeks of infection. He impressed to the members on the need for frequent check ups, reminding them that if they contracted TB, it would hamper their productivity. He added that TB of the lungs is the most common as it is highly communicable, reiterating that it is the right of every citizen to visit any public health facility and demand for a screening, which is free.

He also shared on simple ways of preventing TB, including keeping all the windows open and covering your nose and mouth when sneezing. As a community that holds some influence, he asked them to take part in county public hearings; to make sure that adequate health resources are allocated and ensure that these resources are used well. The members were also challenged to provide a medical insurance cover for their workers, to help them access health services keeping them productive.

## KANCO hosting the CSOs Leadership team: Pictorial



Pictured above: CSOs leadership representatives during a Leadership meeting hosted by KANCO.

## Upcoming Events:

- ◆ TB ACSM Strategy Development Meeting 14th to 16th
- ◆ TICAD briefing meeting. 15th

## CONTACTS

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