

Pushing for UHC at the Kenya Diaspora Homecoming 2019 Convention



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Integrated and people centered health approaches integral to realization of UHC
Allan Ragi; Executive Director KANCO

The Kenya Diaspora Alliance (KDA) in partnership with the Diaspora Investment Club Limited (DIDL) hosted a 3 days' engagement forum for diaspora communities, investors, corporates, professionals, embassies, CSOs, students, support organizations, service providers among other stakeholders between the 17th and 19th December 2019. The engagement also saw the participation of like-minded Kenyans living and working in and out of Kenya for an opportunity to grow, learn, connect and network.

KANCO represented by the Executive Director Allan Ragi was among the speakers on Universal Health Coverage. Mr Ragi made a presentation on leveraging diaspora to realize healthy and empowered communities impressing on the need for integrated and people centered health services as integral to realization of UHC.

The conference was graced by a host of dignitaries addressing a variety of across cutting issues social, economic and innovation opportunities. Dr Shem Ochuodho, Chairperson KDA, described the 2019 conference as a "Globally converged and financially empowered audience, facilitating sharing of knowledge and insights for experts on the latest innovations, network and investments/business opportunities globally"

8.30AM -5.00PM

#KDHC2019

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Capacity Building for Adolescent Girls and Young Women Organizations



A training session on governance for AGYW organizations with Peter Kamau, the Deputy Director KANCO

KANCO with the support of Eastern Africa National Network of AIDS Organizations (EANNASO) through the Amplify Change project held a 5 days capacity building workshop for Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW) organizations around Nairobi including: BLAST, Wounded Healers Foundation and Africa Youth Trust Kenya

The training focused on a range of topics including: Programme Management, Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR), Monitoring and Evaluation, Policy Advocacy, Communication, Media Engagement and Visibility, Leadership and Governance.

Amplify Change is a fund that supports civil society organizations (CSOs) who advocate for improved sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR). The project's vision is to secure universal sexual and reproductive health and rights for all. The project believes that this can only be achieved through building a stronger civil society, with diverse organizations who are resilient and work together to form movements for change.

In Eastern Africa through EANNASO the Primary Recipient for the grant, Amplify change project aims at increasing the engagement of AGYW towards improved access to SRH services in Eastern Africa, within the grant period of , February 2019 to February 2020. The project seeks to increase data availability on SRHR to inform and support programming and influence decision of policies, to build the capacity of AGYW groups, CSOs and CBOs working on SRH to effectively engage in SRH program, design, implementation and monitoring at national level and Foster an enabling environment that promotes access to quality, equitable, and affordable SRH services in Eastern Africa Region.

The project reaches the young people and AGYW through Adolescent Girls and Young women consultative meetings, Bringing together key stake holders, establish partnership and have strong allies, Carrying out SRH related Legal, policy desk review audit at the EAC to identify the existing gaps on SRH legislation and policies to discuss issues that affect AGYW and come up with priority issues to be presented at the regional level during regional policy dialogues.

The training facilitated cross learning and sharing among the organizations as well as from KANCO based on the vast experiences gathered through advocacy and implementations of SRHR programs. Other activities completed under the project include: mapping, capacity assessment, development of a capacity building plan, culminating to the training.

AGYW Capacity Building sessions pictorials



Advocacy training with Jack Ndegwa the Policy and Systems Advisor KANCO

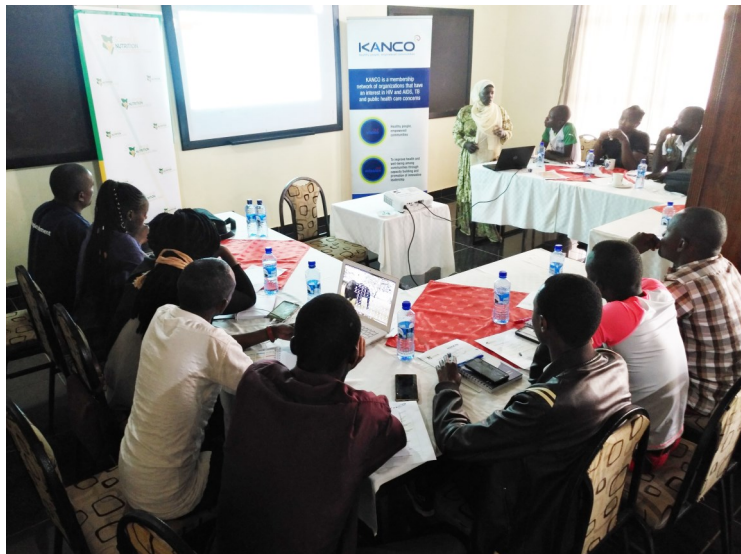


AGYW organizations learning on website development and enhancing visibility with the ICT officer, KANCO Francis Njenga



The team going through a session on SRHR programming with Sylvia Ayon the Key Population Programs Manager KANCO

Counties Nutrition Media Engagement



L-R Nyeri media training delegates with the host SUN -CSA and KANCO representatives, R- Isiolo Nutrition County Coordinator making a presentation during the nutrition media training in Isiolo County

KANCO in collaboration with Scaling Up Nutrition Civil Society Alliance (SUN-CSA) conducted a series of nutrition media sensitization forums in Nyeri, Tharaka Nithi and Isiolo counties on the 10th, 13th and 21st December 2019 respectively. This is in line with KANCO's policy advocacy pillar which seeks to improve health and well-being among communities through capacity building and promotion of innovative leadership. KANCO is a member of SUN CSA and chair of SUN CSA Kenya Advocacy and Communication sub-committee. SUN CSA is a Global Movement, led by Countries, working together to scale up interventions with good nutrition outcomes and founded on the principle that all people have a right to food and good nutrition.

According to the Cost of Hunger in Africa (COHA) study released in 2019, hunger and malnutrition has high negative implications on the continents in the health, productivity and education. The report indicates, 1.8 M (26%) of the children below 5 years are stunted -short for their age; 290,000 (4%) are wasted- thin for their height; and 767,927 (11%) are underweight-light in weight for their age'. In 2014 alone, the economic impact of child undernutrition on the health sector was equivalent to KSh.18.6 Bn (0.3% of the GDP), KSh.3.2 Bn on the education system and KSh.352.1Bn (6.5% of the GDP) on productivity. In total, KSh.373.9Bn (6.9%) of the country's GDP was lost to child undernutrition. Its against these grizzly statistics that the question of the role of media emerges as an advocacy ally in the fight against malnutrition.

Addressing the Nyeri forum Deputy Executive Director KANCO Peter Kamau, affirmed KANCO's commitment to policy advocacy for matters health and nutrition. He proposed the development of a clear mechanism for media engagement to ensure ease of follow-up and continuity of nutrition reporting in the county.

Alluding to the consequences of hunger and malnutrition highlighted by the COHA study, Rahab Mwaniki, Campaigns Manager KANCO, impressed on the need for increased investment in nutrition with special focus on Domestic Financing for nutrition as well as the need to leverage on key nutrition advocacy moments by the media and journalist to support the nutrition cause.

Sharing on the nutrition landscape in Nyeri, Mr. Henry Ng'ethe explained that Nyeri county was facing the triple burden of malnutrition with a sharp increase in non-communicable diseases thus the push for UHC. From the discussions it was noted that there is need for tailored nutrition interventions to address the challenges of NCDs. He further noted that the country was in the process of developing its first County Integrated Nutrition Action Plan (CNAP)

In Isiolo county the journalist and nutrition stakeholders including the county nutrition officials held a discussion on how to work together to help profile nutrition given its centrality in development, as well as ways to make nutrition reporting easier. The journalist taken through the nutrition landscape in the county, the need for a multi-sectoral approach and key nutrition moment for 2020 that the media can leverage on to enhance nutrition coverage.



Esther Kagure, Nutrition Officer KANCO sharing on the upcoming nutrition moments 2020

Upcoming Events :

- ◆ Action Leadership Meeting– 23rd Jan 2020
- ◆ GF-HIV RDQA– 23rd Jan 2020

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