

World Breastfeeding Week 2020

Supporting Breastfeeding for a Healthier Planet



#WBW2020

Weekly Newsletter

Volume 1, Issue 2, August 2020

Announcement

World Overdose Day: August 31, 2020

Global Fund Strategy Development; Take Part in the Survey [here](#)

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Marking the World Breastfeeding Week 2020

The world is marking the world breastfeeding week under the theme “Support breastfeeding for a healthier planet”. In line with this theme, KANCO has been working together with health stakeholders and the Ministry of Health for a media outreach drumming support for immunization at the workplace.

According to WHO, breastfeeding provides every child with the best possible start in life. It delivers health, nutritional and emotional benefits to both children and mothers. And it forms part of a sustainable food system. They add that increasing rates of exclusive breastfeeding could save the lives of 820 000 children every year, generating US \$302 billion in additional income.

It’s against the background that WHO is calling for support for mothers to effectively breastfeed through the call to: **Invest** to make skilled breastfeeding counselling available to every woman through increased financing for breastfeeding programs and improved monitoring and implementation of policies, programs and services. **Train** health care workers, including midwives and nurses, to deliver skilled breastfeeding counselling to mothers and families: **Ensure** that counselling is made available as part of routine health and nutrition services that are easily accessible: **Partner and collaborate** with civil society and health professional associates, building strong collaborative systems for provision of appropriate counselling and: **Protect** health care workers from the influence of the baby food industry.

The call is for multi-stakeholder efforts to ensure commitment, concerted action and collaboration, to ensure every mother has access to skilled breastfeeding counselling, empowering her to give her baby the best possible start in life

BREASTFEEDING | THE GOAL By 2025, increase to at least 50% the rate of exclusive breastfeeding in the first six months

WHY IT MATTERS

BENEFITS OF BREASTFEEDING

- Babies who are fed **nothing but breastmilk** from birth through their first 6 months of life get the **best start**
- Exclusive breastfeeding provides babies: **the perfect nutrition** & everything they need for healthy growth and brain development
- Protection** from respiratory infections, diarrhoeal disease, and other **life-threatening ailments**
- Protection against **obesity & non-communicable diseases** such as asthma and diabetes

RECOMMENDED ACTIONS

LIMIT FORMULA MARKETING

- WHAT?** Significantly limit the marketing of breastmilk substitutes
- HOW?** Strengthen the monitoring, enforcement and legislation related to the International Code of Marketing of Breastmilk Substitutes

SUPPORT PAID LEAVE

- WHAT?** Empower women to exclusively breastfeed
- HOW?** Enact six-months mandatory paid maternity leave and policies that encourage women to breastfeed in the workplace and in public

STRENGTHEN HEALTH SYSTEMS

- WHAT?** Provide hospital and health facilities-based capacity to support exclusive breastfeeding
- HOW?** Expand and institutionalize the baby-friendly hospital initiative in health systems

SUPPORT MOTHERS

- WHAT?** Provide community-based strategies to support exclusive breastfeeding counselling for pregnant and lactating women
- HOW?** Peer-to-peer and group counselling to improve exclusive breastfeeding rates, including the implementation of communication campaigns tailored to the local context

SCOPE OF THE PROBLEM

Globally, only **38%** of infants are exclusively breastfed

Suboptimal breastfeeding contributes to **800,000** infant deaths

GLOBAL TARGETS | World Health Organization | 1000 DAYS

What are the benefits of breastfeeding?

Breastfeeding reduces the baby's risk of:

- ▼ obesity
- ▼ asthma
- ▼ cardiovascular disease
- ▼ diabetes (type 2)

World Health Organization
REGIONAL OFFICE FOR Europe

Images Courtesy: WHO

Strengthening the Community COVID-19 Response under the Global Fund TB Grant



The KANCO team and the Participants during the training at Kwale County

The grant flexibility provision by the Global Fund in response to the pandemic, allowed countries to use up to 5% of existing Global Fund grants to fight COVID-19 and mitigate the impact the pandemic has on HIV, TB and malaria programs which saw up to US\$500 million being made available through these grant savings and reprogramming. This was in response to the emerging needs for community support for an effective response.

Following this provision KANCO with the support of AMREF and in partnership with the Ministry of Health through the Global Fund TB Grant, has been conducting community sensitizations on COVID19, Gender based violence, human rights and TB, across 4 counties; Kwale, Bungoma, Machakos and Kitui Counties.

These training focusing on Community Health Workers (CHWs) and Community Health Extension Workers (CHEWs) have been further facilitating the dissemination of the [Home Based Isolation and Care Guidelines for Patients with COVID](#) . . Some of the topics covered include: home based care, preventing community transmission of Covid-19 as well as TB through an integrated approach to the community disease response

So far 15 training have been conducted across four counties, where KANCO implements the Global Fund TB Project with the support of AMREF



Mombasa County Regional Coordinator KANCO, during a session in the CHVs training in Kwale County

Global Fund Strategy Development: Take Part in the Survey



The current Global Fund strategy (2017-2022) ends in 2022 and the GF is going through a process of identifying what GF should prioritize in their next strategy. The GF Strategy is a multiyear road map for partnerships and acceleration of the progress against HIV, Tuberculosis and Malaria and improve global health. The current Strategy is halfway and the GF has started the process of developing the next strategy, to commence in 2023.

In light of this, the GF has launched an open consultation to develop the next Global Fund Strategy and is strongly encouraging all stakeholders to contribute to this consultation by identifying the most pressing challenges and opportunities in the fight against the three diseases; building resilient and sustainable systems for health; promoting and protecting human rights and gender equality; and Mobilizing Increased Resources. Further the views will contribute to an inclusive Strategy development process, outlining how these priorities are affected by the COVID-19 pandemic and broader changes in the health and development landscape. This will also inform if the current GF strategy was successful, what may have been missed, and define future engagements.

Objectives of the survey

1. To evaluate how Anglophone Africa CS and CG perceive the 2017-2022 SP objectives have been achieved
2. To identify key areas and new strategies that require to be integrated in the next GF strategy.
3. To identify and consolidate inputs and key suggestions from CS and community constituency that represent the voice from Anglophone Africa.

Take part in the survey [here](#)

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#Stay Safe

Komesha Corona