

KANCO

Healthy people, empowered communities

WEEKLY BULLETIN

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CRUNCHING THE NUMBERS

KANCO IN COLLABORATION WITH AMREF INVITES STAKEHOLDERS TO THE DISSEMINATION MEETING OF THE AUDIT REPORT OF THE GLOBAL FUND GRANT APPLICATION PROCESS.

The report is set to be disseminated in Nairobi on 15th February, 2023 at 8:00 am.



Republic of Kenya



Audit Report of the Global Fund Kenya Grant Application Process 2021-2024



Kenya through the Global Fund Country Coordinating Mechanism (KCM) started preparations in November 2019 to ensure timeliness in the submission of a sound funding request application. Key activities included the orientation of KCM members, a funding request application. Key acti-

vities included the orientation of KCM members, a funding request development roadmap, and the development of Terms of Reference (TOR) for the Writing Team and the nomination of a writing team. A funding request core team was set up composed of three members from the Government,

three members from non-state and one member representing the development partners.

Kenya received the 2020-2022 allocation letter from The Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria on, 16 December 2019. From the letter, Kenya had been allocated US\$ 415,310,170 for HIV, Tuberculosis, Malaria and building Resilient and Sustainable Systems for Health (RSSH). In December 2022, the Global Fund officially allocated Kenya \$400 Million to be utilized between 2023 and 2025, as part of the fourth round of the New Funding Model (NFM 4)

Through the support from the Global Fund through the principal recipient, AMREF, KANCO, undertook a study in Kenya to

audit the Global Fund in country application process with an aim to help stakeholders influence more allocation for TB, HIV and Malaria in the next process.

The audit report for the Kenya grant application process 2021 – 2024 is the outcome of extensive interviews and discussions held with different stakeholders who participated in the funding request application. This work would not have succeeded without the input, comments, and honest feedback of various individuals and groups.

The Global Fund’s announcement of the fourth round of new funding model (NFM4) provides an opportunity to align the recommendations of the GF audit report findings.

Speaking to KANCO Weekly Bulletin, Sylvia Ayon - KANCO Senior Policy Manager gave an insight on what is



Sylvia Ayon - KANCO Senior Policy Manager

expected on the day. “During the dissemination meeting, we shall share key findings, lessons learnt and discuss pertinent issues highlighting recommendations from the reports to stakeholders as part of concerted efforts to strengthen the new Global Fund application Process that kick-starts this February since Kenya received an allocation letter o allocation letter.”

KANCO JOINS OTHER PARTNERS FOR THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT OF MOMBASA, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES TB/HIV REVIEW MEETING



During the Review Meeting in Mombasa. (Photo courtesy of County Government of Mombasa, Department of Health Services)

The County Government of Mombasa convened the meeting through the support of its implementing partner USAID Kenya-Stawisha Pwani.

The discussion was about how the TB program and HIV

performed in their key performance indicators in 2022. Some improvement was noted and areas that need more effort to be improved were also identified. Rapid Response Initiative was agreed upon as one of the strategies to address low indicators.

Participants were encouraged to use their data for decision-making.

The meetings are planned to be done quarterly.

In attendance were the County Director of public health, some County Head Management Team members, the Sub-County team, the Stawisha Pwani team, KANCO, AHF Kenya and BOMU Hospital.

HIV and Tuberculosis (TB) continue to be major public health challenges in Mombasa, Kenya. According to recent estimates, the HIV prevalence in the coastal city is estimated to be around 8.1%, with young women and men being the most affected. TB also remains a significant problem, with over 1,000 new cases being reported each year.

NEWS

KANCO SUBMITS A MEMORANDUM TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR THE RATIFICATION OF THE AFRICAN MEDICINES AGENCY TREATY

The National Assembly invited the public to participate in the approval of the ratification of the African Union Treaty for the Establishment of the African Union Medical Agency after it was ratified by the Cabinet on 12th May 2022.

“Ratifying the Africa Medicine Agency Treaty signifies the end of a long journey but a very timely venture” - Jack Ndegwa Head Policy & Programmes, KANCO

The African Union Treaty for the Establishment of the African Union Medical Agency (AMA) is a significant milestone in the health sector for the African continent. The treaty aims to provide a unified and integrated approach to public health issues, as well as strengthening the existing health systems in Africa.

The treaty establishes the African Union Medical Agency as a specialized agency of the African Union, with the mandate to coordinate and harmonize the provision of essential medical services and supplies across the continent. The agency will be responsible for the development of policies and programs to address public health issues, such as communicable and non-communicable diseases, as well as health emergencies and pandemics.

One of the key objectives of the AMA is to ensure the availability and accessibility of essential medical products and services in Africa. This includes the procurement, distribution, and rational use of medical products, as well as strengthening the health sys-

tems to provide quality health services to the population. The agency will also coordinate and support the implementation of health programs and initiatives, including disease control and elimination efforts.

Another important aspect of the AMA is its role in promoting research and development in the health sector. This includes supporting the development of new medicines and technologies, as well as promoting the use of existing treatments and technologies to improve health outcomes in Africa. The agency will also play a key role in training and capacity building for health workers and professionals, as well as in the development of health information systems and health data management.

The establishment of the AMA is expected to have a positive impact on the health sector in Africa, by improving the availability and accessibility of essential medical products and services, as well as strengthening the health systems and promoting research and development. It will also help to reduce the burden of disease and improve health outcomes in Africa, by addressing the root causes of public health issues and by providing essential medical services and supplies to those who need them.

The African Union Treaty for the Establishment of the African Union Medical Agency is an important step in the right direction for the health sector in Africa. By providing a unified and integrated approach to public



health issues, the agency will help to ensure that all people in Africa have access to the essential medical products and services they need to live healthy lives. The treaty is a strong commitment by African leaders to improve the health and well-being of their people, and it is a testament to their determination to build a better and more prosperous future for all Africans.

Regional medicine agencies can help to ensure that essential medicines are available and accessible to the people in the region. These agencies can work with local health facilities to ensure that the necessary medicines are in stock and are distributed in a timely manner.

Having regional medicine agencies can also help to address the issue of disparities in the availability and access to essential medicines. By having medicine agencies at the regional level, the needs and priorities of each region can be better addressed, leading to more equitable access to essential medicines.

ALL IN A DAYS WORK...

I LOVE YOU

After discussing a patient, the doctor ended his conversation by telling me, “I love you.” Following an awkward pause, he said, “I’m sorry, you were telling me what to do, so it made me think I was speaking with my wife.”

NEWS

THE 71ST EAST, CENTRAL, AND SOUTHERN AFRICA HEALTH COMMUNITY HEALTH MINISTERS CONFERENCE IS CONVENED IN LESOTHO

KENYAN HEALTH CABINET SECRETARY ELECTED CHAIRPERSON OF THE HEALTH MINISTERS CONFERENCE

The Conference was preceded by the technocrats who passed on the recommendations to the Health Ministers from the region later this week.

Ahead of the Health Ministers’ arrivals, these technocrats from the member states gather to chisel, shape and package some policies that can bring access to health closer to the people.



A Cultural group from Lesotho using Edutainment to sensitize and create awareness on the need for strengthening regional collaboration so as to create regional solutions and responses to emerging and re-emerging diseases performs during the 71st East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community are holding the 71st Health Ministers’ Conference in Lesotho (photo courtesy of ECSCA_HC, Twitter)

The officials ponder on some of the best practices that may assist the region to move as a unit in tackling modern day health challenges, and the COVID-19 pandemic is one such to learn from, as it presented unique set of challenges and needed exceptional set of skills to deal with.

The Health Ministers from the member states were in Lesotho for a week and put their heads together amid dwindling resources from the donor funded pool, thus calling for fresh and innovative funding models that can future proof Africa’s health and welfare.

The Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for health was elected as Chairperson of the conference at the backdrop of the meeting in Lesotho.

“On behalf of the Government of Kenya, I am hon-

oured to be appointed as the Chairperson of the Health Ministers Conference. The vision of the East, Central and Southern Africa Health Community is to foster cooperation btwn member states for the improvement of health services for all our people.” Nakhumicha tweeted.

THE COALITION FOR HEALTH RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT HELD ITS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

AGM’s OBJECTIVES

- Develop a shared understanding of progress and accomplishments to date, contextual changes and next steps for CHReAD.
- Discuss and clearly determine what success for CHReAD will look like and make program-level decisions on how CHReAD can best achieve the said success
- Better integrate member activities and align on how the secretariat will support members in their individual organizational R&D activities
- Team cohesion

The AGM was held on the 6th to the 10th February 2023 at Sarova White Sands, Mombasa. KANCO was represented at the meeting by Sylvia Ayon, Senior Policy Manager.

The convention also saw the attendees and the stakeholders they represented draft a memorandum on the approval of the ratification of the African Union Treaty for the Establishment of the African Union Medical Agency.

The UNAIDS Executive Director Winnie Byanyima who is visiting the country also found time in her busy schedule to attend the workshop.



Byanyima receives a gift during the workshop

The Coalition for Health Research and Development (CHReAD) brings together civil society organisations, research institutions, academia, and the private sector to advocate for an enabling policy environment that promote research, innovation, and access to high-impact products and technologies in Kenya.

LOVE IS AN ELIXIR



When Bon Jovi, the classical American rock band performed the lyrics to 'Bad Medicine', there was probably some more science to this song than the average ear would think.

The lyrics to the 80's banger - 'I ain't got a fever, I got a permanent disease. It'll take more than a doctor to prescribe a remedy. I got lots of money, but it isn't what I need. Gonna take more than a shot to get this poison out of me. And I got all the symptoms, count 'em one, two, three,' - may be more than just plain creativity.

As you may have already noticed by the way, we played around with the theme this week to mark the day of expressing love, which, according to research, as with Bon Jovi, may actually be very good for your health!

Love has been proven time and time again to have numerous benefits for both physical and mental health. Love can come in many forms, whether it be romantic love, familial love, or love for friends, pets, or hobbies. Regardless of the form it takes, love has been shown to have a profound impact on overall well-being.

One of the most significant benefits of love is that it helps to reduce stress. Stress can take a toll on both the mind and body, leading to physical symptoms like headaches, high blood pressure, and even heart disease. However, studies have shown that love can help to mitigate these effects by reducing the levels of stress hormones in the body. For example, research has found that people who feel love and support from their partners experience lower levels of cortisol, a stress hormone, compared to those who do not feel such support.

Love can also help to boost the immune system. When we experience love and positive emotions, our bodies release hormones like oxytocin and endorphins, which can help to improve our overall health. These hormones can also increase the production of white blood cells, which play a crucial role in fighting off infections and diseases.

In addition to physical benefits, love can also have a positive impact on mental health. Love provides a sense of security, which can help to reduce feelings of anxiety and depression. Additionally, being loved and cared for can increase self-esteem, allowing individuals to feel better about themselves and their place in the world. People who feel loved are also more likely to have healthy relationships with others and be better equipped to deal with life's challenges.

One of the most surprising benefits of love is that it can help to extend lifespan. Research has found that people who are in happy and loving relationships tend to live longer and healthier lives compared to those who are not. This is because love provides a sense of purpose, connection, and fulfillment, which can enhance overall well-being and promote longevity.

Another way that love is good for health is through the promotion of healthy habits. People who are in loving relationships are more likely to engage in healthy behaviors, such as eating well, exercising, and seeking medical care when necessary. This is because their loved ones encourage and support them in these healthy habits, which can have a positive impact on both physical and mental health.

Some have also argued that being single has its benefits. Some say single people often have better body mass indexes, engage in less alcohol and drug consumption, among many other stories. But love is a beautiful thing, and if there are reasons to even believe that it makes your health better, then I see not any reason why anyone would trade it for anything else.

DEVOLVING HEALTH IN KENYA WAS A GENIUS MOVE

Health is a vital aspect of human life and is critical to the overall development and well-being of any country. In Kenya, health was one of the functions that was devolved to the county level in the new constitution of 2010. Devolution refers to the transfer of powers, resources, and responsibilities from the central government to the local governments, in this case, the county governments. The idea behind devolution was to bring services closer to the people and make them more accessible, affordable, and responsive to the local needs and priorities.

Since the devolution of health, there have been significant improvements in the delivery of health services in Kenya. Here are some of the key improvements that have been observed:

- **Increased Access to Healthcare:** The devolution of health has increased access to healthcare services in Kenya, especially in rural areas. County governments have been able to invest in the expansion of health facilities and the hiring of more health workers. This has led to an increase in the number of health facilities, particularly in rural areas, and improved access to healthcare services.
- **Improved Health Outcomes:** With the devolution of health, the county governments have been able to tailor healthcare services to the specific needs of their populations. For example, some county governments have focused on strengthening the delivery of maternal and child health services, leading to an improvement in maternal and child health outcomes. Other county governments have focused on the prevention and control of communicable diseases, such as tuberculosis and HIV/AIDS, resulting in a reduction in the incidence and prevalence of these diseases.
- **Increased Investment in Health:** The devolution of health has also led to increased investment in the health sector. County governments have been able to increase their budgets for health, leading to an increase in the resources available for the delivery of health services. This has led to the improvement of health facilities, the expansion of health ser-

vices. This has led to the improvement of health facilities, the expansion of health services, and the hiring of more health workers.

- **Improved Health Service Delivery:** The devolution of health has led to the improvement of health service delivery in Kenya. The county governments have been able to design and implement health policies and programs that are responsive to the specific health needs of their populations. For example, some county governments have introduced health insurance schemes that make healthcare services more affordable and accessible to the people.

In conclusion, the devolution of health has led to significant improvements in the delivery of health services in Kenya. The transfer of powers, resources, and responsibilities from the central government to the county governments has increased access to healthcare services, improved health outcomes, increased investment in health, improved health service delivery, decentralized decision-making, and increased community involvement in the health sector.



Sure, here's an interesting medical fact: Did you know that the human nose can detect over 1 trillion different scents, making it one of the most advanced olfactory systems in the animal kingdom? This ability to distinguish different odors plays a crucial role in many physiological processes, including our sense of taste, mood regulation, and even the ability to detect danger.



Ministry of Health

GET THE FIRST
DOSE OF THE
CHOLERA
VACCINE
TODAY!

ORAL CHOLERA VACCINATION CAMPAIGN

Cholera is a bacterial disease that causes severe watery diarrhea and vomiting. The loss of body fluids occurs within hours and results in death if left untreated.

Cholera is spread through eating food or drinking water contaminated with faeces containing the Cholera germs.

While Cholera is a dangerous disease, it can easily be prevented by:



Receiving the Oral Cholera Vaccine along with drinking and using safe treated water, proper hand washing with soap, toilet/pit latrine use, and proper waste disposal.



The ministry is providing one dose of cholera vaccine to everyone aged above 1 year.



The one dose will provide protection for up-to 6 months. However, members of public are urged to observe personal hygiene measures even after vaccination.

The vaccine is safe, effective and free.

The oral cholera vaccination campaign will take place in: **Mathare and Embakasi East** in Nairobi County, **Wajir East and Wajir South** in Wajir County, **Bura sub-county** in Tana River County, and **Garissa, Dadaab, Fafi, and Lagdera sub-county** in Garissa county. All Dadaab refugee camps will also be vaccinated.

Dates of campaign: 11th February 2023 to 20th February 2023



For Further Information contact:

Ministry of Health

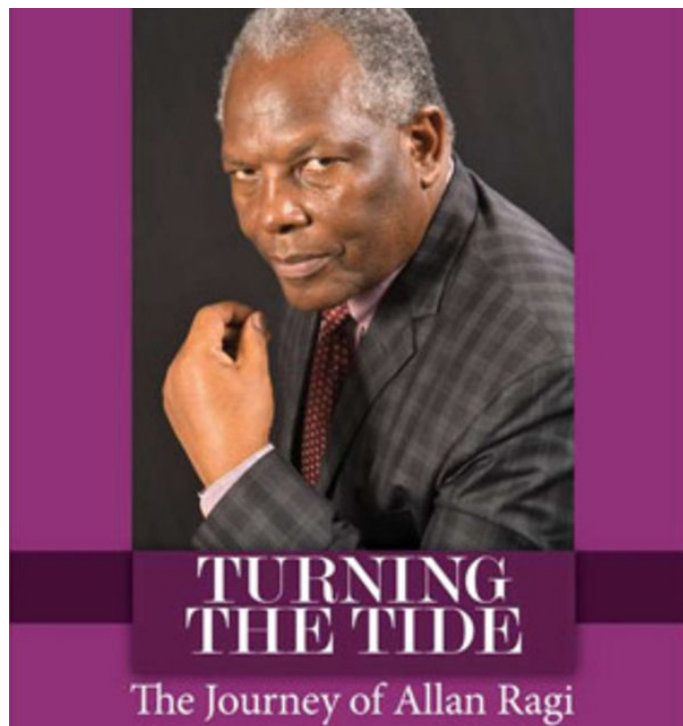
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EXCERPTS**BOOK REVIEW: THE QUIET ACTIVIST WHO REVOLUTIONISED THE FIGHT AGAINST HIV IN KENYA**

Excerpt from the Daily Nation Friday, December 16, 2016.



In the early days following the discovery of HIV in Kenya (the mid-1980s and much of the early part of the 1990s), the picture was so bleak that even the most forward-thinking of visionaries could only afford to be cautiously optimistic. From opinion leaders to social elders, to heads of religious institutions, to politicians, to the common man, everyone held powerful (and quite incorrect) convictions about what HIV and AIDS was and what it was not.

Around the country, the picture of this new disease, AIDS (as all stages of the scourge were termed then) was as vague as it was confusing. Some said the disease was the product of witchcraft.

Others thought HIV and AIDS was only a social hoax, perhaps an elaborate April Fools' lie that somehow persisted. In some parts of Kenya, AIDS was seen as pure propaganda, possibly imported from the West. Some said the acronym AIDS stood for "America's Idea of Discouraging Sex," a sophisticated plot calculated to shock the world into planning their families through the instillation of the fear of unprotected sex.

If Kenya were to manage this problem, a multi-faceted approach (one that encompassed the medical, the social and the political dimensions of the scourge) was called for. Someone — indeed many persons and organisations working together — would have to be more fully invested in the project (physically, emotionally and mentally). But getting that first person to commit to this chancy project was not easy. The envisioned project sought to swim against the social tide yet, as before, there were no guarantees that the new plan (if indeed there was a plan) would work. Who, then, would that first risk-taker be?

Turning the Tide: The Journey of Allan Ragi explores the professional life of Mr Allan Ragi and how he revolutionised the fight against HIV and AIDS in Kenya.

You can read the rest of the article [here](#).

**PERLS OF WISDOM**

"Love hard when there is love to be had. Because perfect guys don't exist, but there's always one guy that is perfect for you."

- Bob Nesta Marley



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Wishes you a Happy Valentines Day!

KEEP THE  BURNING!

