



POUR ELLE

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**18TH GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF THE
REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SUPPLIES COALITION**

RH/FP Youth Champions: the case of Kilifi County

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Kilifi County



My Passionate to champion for Youth RH/FP

I lost my best and sweet girls friend of unsafe abortion in high school; a head girl too and I witness high adolescent pregnancies in my county. I couldn't just wait and see. I had and must act forever.

I believe Reproductive Health and Family Planning are reaffirmations of a family's dignity to build a society where everyone counts, everyone is assured quality life by right not chance.

Young people should understand, appreciate and live family planning as young as ten years so that they grow along with informed choices on their reproductive life

Kilifi County: Key indicators

Indicator	Kilifi	Coast	Kenya
Total fertility rate (%)	5.1	4.3	3.9
Teenage Pregnancy (%)	22	21	18
CPR (any method) (%)	34.1	43.9	58
CPR (modern method) (%)	32.8	38.3	53
Married girls (15-19) using modern contraceptives (%)	20		37
Unmet need for currently married girls (15-19)	59		23
Unmet need for FP (general)	23.3%		
Maternal Mortality Ratio	290/100,000		362/100,000
Adolescent fertility (15-19)	123 births/1000		96/1000

Kilifi County: Key indicators (contd)

- Kilifi County has a youthful population with people below age 15 making up nearly half (47%) of the total population
- About 1 in 4 (24%) people are adolescents aged 10-19
- Early marriage and teenage pregnancy affects school retention and performance especially for girls who drop out due to pregnancy.
- While primary school enrolment is 84%, only a quarter (26%) enroll in secondary school
- Complications from pregnancy and childbirth are a leading cause of death among adolescent girls

Key obstacles on RH/FP in Kilifi

- No political will/attention existed towards address RH/FP
- Inadequate SRHR information and knowledge in the communities leading to myths and misconceptions
- Logistical barriers, including long distances and stock outs
- Social, cultural and religious beliefs and practices including lack of women's empowerment and male involvement
- Inadequate health information management systems
- Legal and medical regulations
- Poverty and increases in out-of-pocket expenses to access reproductive health services

Youth Champion activities

- Engaging County decision makers and key opinion leaders to understand RH/FP and youth friendly services for improved policies and increased budget allocations
- Carrying out peer learning sessions and youth base circles to discuss Sexual and Reproductive health among youth
- Mobilizing community members including women and youth to attend budgets hearings and public participation meetings
- Cascading FP advocacy skills and budget tracking to other youth leaders and organisations in the County
- Leading budget estimates analysis with different community groups so that their voices are heard
Integrating family planning to CSO programmes
- Community Conversations and dialogues on education of girls and health

Achievements

- For the first time Kilifi County provided a budget line for FP and allocated KES 3 million (USD30,000) (2017/18 FY)
- County Government with the support of Champions and CSOs completed the County Family Planning Costed Implementation Plan (CIP) 2017 - 2021
- Increased support by local actors e.g. Area Chief Junju inviting champions to public *barazas* to talk about SRHR/FP and youth utilization of FP services
- Increased openness amongst community members in Msumarini, Vipingo, Mtepeni and Majengo to speak about RH/FP
- Improved discussions among couples on the best methods of FP for their families and asking for referrals
- Formation of Kilifi County FP Champions Circle with members from the Ward level to the County Level with local CSOs and NCPD
- Participate in Strategic planning of Coast regions National Council of Population and Development under the Ministry of Devolution and Planning
- Our organization (Rising Winners) received KES 150,000 from Child Rights Fund to support child care for five teen mothers so they go back to school

Gallery



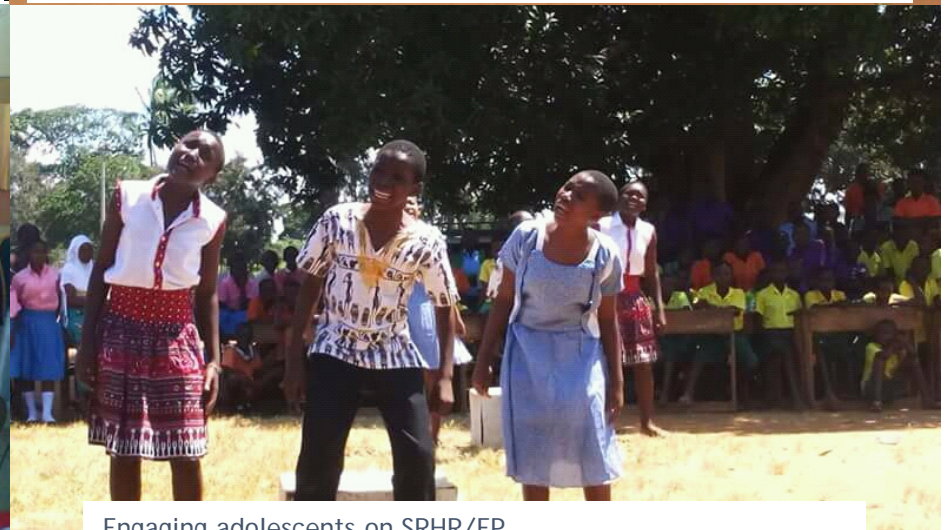
Launching of CIP for Kilifi



Youth entertaining Guest World Contraception Day 2017, Ganze



Mentoring peer champions for Mombasa County




Engaging adolescents on SRHR/FP

Challenges and mitigation


- **Relative resistance by traditional and religious groups:** Engaging them in discussions and directing them to religious clerics who are progressive and knowledgeable to religious facts about reproduction and contraception
- **Youth language to FP is still attitudinal:** Peer learning and one-on-one sessions help youth understand and own FP. In fact youth I interact with prefer to term Family Planning as *Future Planning*
- **Low male involvement:** Engaging my male friends, relatives and partners to understand and be the immediate role models along with me to other men. I am also planning to be an ambassador of vasectomy in the near future
- **Inadequate resources and stock outs:** Champion for increasing budget allocation and resource mobilization to fund sustainably the RH supplies and Services to young people in our County.

Strategies to reach young people with the RH supplies they need

- Young people must **participate meaningfully in decision making processes** at all levels to provide effective solutions and own the decisions made. It also promote recognition and consistent involvement of **youth in diversity** - socio-cultural, economic background.
- **Providing young people (Youth) Friendly Services** - Young people need confidential with realiable accessible RH Services and suplies.
- Recognition and consistent involvement of **youth in diversity** - socio-cultural, economic background
- **Integrate RH supplies and services with youth lifestyles and trends:** providing RH/FP services and supplies should be proactively consistent to the youth lifestyles and dynamic trends and engagements.
- **Media and art use** to create and increase awareness and demand amongst youth since even shy young individuals can ask for services behind keyboards and media.
- **Decorating Young Couples and families** - important to target young marriages both formal/ informal and traditional with couples between 19 and 35 years to promote couple responsibility to family planning. **Role modelling** through leaders and celebrities appealing to young people on RH/FP



“Adequate sustainable Reproductive
Health Supplies guarantee sustainable
quality Family Planning to all
the foundation for healthy Global family”
Omar M. Bandika





**Merci Beaucoup
General Supplies
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