

INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SERVICES (IDEWES)

ORGANISATIONAL PROFILE



Charity Registration Number: 218/051/0261/1763

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EMPOWERING COMMUNITIES FOR A BETTER FUTURE

IDEWES BACKGROUND

IDEWES is a Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) that was founded and registered in 2001 under Section 10 of the NGOs Co-ordination Act. The organisation was founded with the aim of mobilizing resources and technical capacity in addressing the myriad of problems facing communities in Kibera.

Since its inception, the organisation has been active in providing support through an established centre, which is centrally located in Kichinjio village in Kibera. Support to the community is provided through five key programmes: Home Based Care (HBC); Care and Support for Orphans and Vulnerable Children (OVC); Economic Empowerment and Social Development; Human Rights and Conflict Resolution; and Education and Child Sponsorship. Key beneficiaries are children, women and people living with HIV and AIDs (PLWHAs). Implementation is carried out by local staff from Kibera, and occasionally by skilled international volunteers.

OUR VISION

A country where communities are empowered to improve and sustain their livelihoods.

OUR MISSION

To enable communities in Kibera to achieve their maximum potential by enhancing their capacity and providing them with opportunities.

OUR GOAL

Improved livelihoods of children, women and people living with HIV and AIDs (PLWHAs) through the provision of tools that enable sustainable development and maximise access to opportunities.

OUR VALUES

Commitment, Accountability, Team Work, Respect & Honesty.



TACKLING THE PROBLEMS FACING KIBERA

Kibera slum is situated in south-west Nairobi city about 7km from the city centre. The settlement is in Lang'ata constituency of Nairobi province. The population of the slum was approximately 800,000 people as per the 1999 national population census. Currently, the population is estimated to be over 1 million people confined to a 2.5km² area. Kenya's population currently stands at approximately 40 million, an increase of 12 million or 35% since 1999. With high levels of poverty, a significant number of Kenyans head to slum areas like Kibera where the cost of living is cheap. The high population density of Kibera is a significant issue that raises a number of concerns also including overpopulation, lack of employment opportunities, increased insecurity and environmental degradation.



IDEWES PROGRAMMES

1. HOME BASED CARE

CONTEXT: Estimates indicate that currently, 1.5 million Kenyans are living with HIV/AIDS and around 1.2 million children have been orphaned by death due to AIDS. The majority of infected Kenyans live below the poverty line and can be found within informal settlements in Kenya's urban areas, including Kibera. With an estimate of over 300,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in Kibera slums and below the poverty line, it is imperative that support is given to them in the form of counseling and therapy, emotional and nutritional support and facilitating linkages with free health services.

STRATEGY AND ACHIEVEMENTS: IDEWES provides care and support for people living with HIV and Aids (PLWHAs) through home visits to PLWHAs; counseling and group therapy; nutritional support; and treatment therapy including Prevention Mother to Child Transmission (PMCT), referrals for ARVs and TB therapies. IDEWES currently supports 30 PLWHAs through home based care, counseling and group therapy. Working in partnership with NACC in 2011, IDEWES will target 480 PLWHAs to provide more support in this area.

2. HUMAN RIGHTS and CONFLICT RESOLUTION

Sweetening Justice for Children, Women, and People living with HIV and AIDS

CONTEXT: At the core of our 'Sweetening Justice' program is the goal of empowering victims of abuse to speak out and seek justice in the community.

STRATEGY AND ACHIEVEMENTS: To achieve this goal, IDEWES creates awareness, identifies cases of rights abuse and promotes access to justice for these victims. IDEWES has worked with CARE Kenya since 2008 to create awareness among 420 children, 400 women and 400 PLWHAs in Kibera. To date,

20 sensitisation sessions have been held with over 100 cases dealt with through Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR). Three Legal Aid Clinics (LAC) have been held over this period with over 92 cases

dealt with through the legal system. IDEWES is also working with GRACE Africa, Children's Legal Action Network (CLAN) and Women Empowerment Link (WEL) to target, support and raise awareness of 330 beneficiaries in the course of 2011 to ensure effective running of the programme.



3. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

CONTEXT: IDEWES believes creating jobs and fostering 'wealth creation' is an essential intervention that tackles a broad range of development issues within Kibera. Active promotion and training, mobilises communities to engage in 'Income Generating Activities' (IGA) that enable them to become economically sustainable.

STRATEGY AND ACHIEVEMENTS:

Group Savings & Loans (GS&L) IDEWES empowers communities economically by providing training on Group Savings and Loans (GS&L), a community managed micro-finance scheme intended to improve economic resiliency among micro entrepreneurs. Training is also provided on Selection, Planning and Management (SPM) which underlies the start of Income Generating Activities (IGAs). IDEWES currently monitors 20 groups (with a total of about 200 people) in the Group Savings & Loans scheme. Members, primarily women, meet each week to contribute savings to a pooled fund from which loans can be made to other members for their IGA development, providing additional capital for their diverse range of small businesses. Members also benefit from continuous monitoring and evaluation by IDEWES staff. IDEWES has trained and supported a total of 50 groups to date, 20 of which have become self-sustainable and independent of IDEWES and reinvested into their growing IGAs.

Micro finance scheme IDEWES has also recently introduced a micro finance scheme which it is yet to implement. As GS&L members grow their IGAs, success of their businesses leads to larger amounts of credit required by them to fund business growth. IDEWES has successfully developed the capability to provide this credit to its members. A proposal for implementation is currently being developed and our first loans will be issued before the end of 2011.

4. ORPHANS AND VULNERABLE CHILDREN (OVC)

CONTEXT: With an estimated 1.2 million children orphaned by death due to AIDS, around one million unplanned pregnancies in Kenya, the risk of HIV/AIDS, over 300,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the slum there is a real impetus to address safe sex practices and family planning awareness among children.

STRATEGY AND ACHIEVEMENTS: IDEWES targets OVCs through caregivers (guardians) most of whom are members of IDEWES' GS&L groups, through schools, and through its other programmes and networks. OVCs are supported through the provision of psychosocial support, organised sessions and direct education in schools on sexual health and the risk of HIV/AIDS. Under the 'sweetening justice' programme they are also educated on the rights of children. There are currently 400 OVC registered on the IDEWES 'OVC Support' program. The majority of these children have in some way been affected by HIV/AIDS and they require constant support. IDEWES carries out regular 'monitoring and evaluation' (M&E) exercises to assess capacity needs to support OVCs to have continuous education.

5. EDUCATION AND CHILD SPONSORSHIP

"Only the educated are free". Building on our current OVC program, IDEWES looks to the future to empower all young people to reach their full potential and to have an equal chance in achieving their dreams regardless of their background. We aim to provide sponsorship for students to complete basic education, and supporting them to achieve at the minimum, vocational qualifications, and possibly to further trade training or higher education.

IDEWES MANAGEMENT

IDEWES is governed by eleven Board of Directors who meet four times a year.

IDEWES STAFF

Ms. Judith Muga, Director: A trained nurse, and a trained paralegal Judith is both founder and Director of IDEWES and is responsible for the development and daily management of the organisation.

There are six local staff also known as Field Officers, four of whom are trained paralegals. The organisation also receives support from local and international volunteers throughout the year.

OUR PARTNERS

(Aids, Population and Health Integrated Assistance) APHIA PLUS: Following a strong relationship built with CARE Kenya, Aphia Plus, previously known as Aphia II, will continue to support some of CARE Kenya's programmes with IDEWES, to ensure continuation of programme implementation.

2Way Development: A new partnership formed in 2010 via NAVNET, 2Way Development will place, at IDEWES, skilled and experienced international volunteers who will play a key part in working towards our goals. Since June 2010, we have had three volunteers from the UK with a range of expertise and skills ranging from ICT to finance, organisational development to fundraising and programme management. With their professionalism and experience international volunteers leave a positive and indelible mark on the organisation.

CARE International in Kenya: Operational in Kenya since 1968 Care Kenya has been a key international development and humanitarian organisation supporting communities in Kibera. IDEWES has partnered with CARE Kenya on a number of different initiatives implemented in Kibera over a six-year period. These include economic development, health and HIV/AIDS as well as the promotion and support of human rights.

Grassroots Alliance for Community Education (G.R.A.C.E.) Africa: GRACE Africa was established in 2001 to build the capacity of community based organisations to implement self-determined, high impact and sustainable initiatives for better health and development. IDEWES is partner in creating awareness of human rights at the grassroots.

International Cultural Youth Exchange (ICYE): An important partnership with ICYE, a nonprofit youth exchange organisation, provides young international volunteers valuable experience of grassroots community development in Kibera, as well as availing us of their time and assistance.

National AIDS Control Council (NACC): The NACC was established to mobilise and coordinate Kenya's effort against the spread of HIV/AIDS and to support those that have been affected. IDEWES is partner in delivering on the goals and targets outlined in NACC's 'Total War against HIV and AIDS' (TOWA) project in support of 'Kenya's National AIDS Strategic Plan' (KNASP III) 2009/10-20012/13.

NAVNET: NAVNET links volunteers from Kenya who wish to undertake a volunteer placement with local organisations such as IDEWES. International and local volunteers have played and continue to play a crucial part in helping deliver our programmes whilst giving them the opportunity to gain work experience and develop their skills.

Other partners:

[Children's Legal Action Network \(CLAN\)](#)

[Kenya NGOs Consortium \(KANCO\)](#)

[Women for Justice](#)

[Women's Empowerment Link \(WEL\)](#)

COME AND MEET US!

Located in Kichinjio village in Kibera in Nairobi - close to the District Commissioner's (DC) office. We welcome you to visit us and see us in action. Visitors are always welcome!