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Our Mission

Building partnerships with communities and enabling them to exercise their God-given potentials in addressing their needs.

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Joining the Dots in Climate Change Adaptation

Climate Change reality has downed on developing countries therefore calls for effective adaptation strategies. This has led establishment of institutional resources to finance Climate Change Adaptation. Such include National Climate Change Funds resourced through international finance and/or domestic budget allocations and the domestic private sector.

However, relatively little attention has been paid to develop mechanism through which climate funds could be channeled from national to local government and to the most vulnerable in the community.

In this issue we observe how one of the region is engaging two County Governments in regard to funding climate change adaptation. It also highlights the social-economic impact.
ADS Eastern, in conjunction with Adaptation Consortium, is implementing an innovative approach in Kitui and Makueni aimed at addressing climate change adaptation funding at the community level. They have a project designed to prepare counties access climate finance from local and international institutions. In order to access the funds the county Government has to pass the County Climate Change Fund (CCF) and Climate Information Services (CIS).

CIS aims at passing climate information at all levels within the county structure that helps stakeholders to make decision. The Kitui and Makueni County CIS plans were initially implemented with 2,000 intermediaries who committed to pass on the information to other community members. As a result, climate information reached 269,053 households in a span of six months. To improve understanding and use of CIS, meteorological terms were translated from English to Kiswahili (national language used in Kenya) and Kikamba (native language in the community) to improve the level of understanding. This contributed significantly towards achievement of critical targeted climate change governance reforms at county and local levels, which is also recognized at the national level.

The fund is managed by Ward & County Adaptation Planning Committees. Whose mandate is to determine key priorities investment that builds climate change resilience and strengthens economic development. The local communities are authorized to prioritize the type of public investments that will build their resilience to climate change. The investments are guided by Climate information, resilience and resource mapping. A monitoring, evaluating and reporting system is put in place to track the adaptation and resilience.

One of the activities that were undertaken in this project was the drilling of Urura Borehole. Urura is an arid area where the community practices pastoral farming. The borehole enable the community access drought reserve pastures during difficult times. As a result reduce livestock mortality and asset loss. The households that benefit from the project were a hundred and thirty with 2800 cattle, 12,510 goats and 1788 donkeys. The investing process built a capacity for communities and local governments to engage each other.
Advocacy on Anti-IEBC Demonstrations

The Coalition for Reforms and Democracy (CORD) which is the opposition party in Kenya organized weekly (on Monday) demonstration from the month of May. They sited that the Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission (IEBC) cannot be trusted to oversee a free and fair 2017 general election. Therefore demanding its disbandment and replacement by a new body. The coalition request to have dialogue with the government over the issue or else continue with the protest across the country. On the other hand, the government of Kenya reiterated that the coalition should follow the guidelines and platform outlined by the Kenya Constitution.

During this demonstrations the country experienced high tension. Property worth millions were destroyed and looted, at least four people died, over a hundred injured, several business and learning institutions were disrupted.

The church had to play its role by providing leadership and mediation platform where the two sides would table their grievances and find a solution. Archbishop Wabukala and three bishops together with other faith leaders held mediation meetings with the CORD coalition as well as the government in different sittings. They recommended the following Actions;

- Mobilize Members of Parliament to amend IEBC Act
- Support establishment of multi sectoral process for consensus preparation of the 2017 general election

The demonstrations were suspended after positive progress talks and a parliamentary committee was formed to spearhead the reforms.