



Well, that flew by fast. How did you spend your June?

# **SRHR & Climate Change**



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#### **Past Issues**

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together members and participants to address various critical issues. During the health outreaches, multiple activities were carried out to promote sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), raise awareness about SRHR issues, climate change, gender equality (GE), and the importance of natural birth spacing (NBS). The outreach teams organized informative sessions, distributed educational materials, and provided accessible SRHR services in a safe and non-judgmental environment, promoting inclusivity and empowerment. These efforts increased community members' awareness of the connections between climate change, SRHR, GE, and NBS, contributing to informed decision-making and community engagement in addressing these interrelated challenges.

#### **SRHR Through Media**



The Community Of Action (COA) in Kenya received practical communication training on women's sexual reproductive health rights in Nairobi, facilitated by Thomas Reuters Foundation under the WE LEAD project. The training aimed to strengthen the rights-based narrative on young women's SRH-R and amplify the voices of right holders groups. It included capacity building of local newsroom reporters and the COA, facilitating network connections, and utilizing various digital tools for multimedia campaigns and content creation. The training also covered conducting prep and press conferences with journalists, explicitly focusing on reporting for SRH-R. As a result, the COA organizations have been empowered to utilize media tools for SRH-R reporting and effectively manage their social media platforms.



The SRHR Intergenerational Dialogues in Kisumu and Mombasa, organized in partnership with SRHR Alliance under the RHRN program, brought together community leaders, gatekeepers, parents, and young people from different generations. The aim was to facilitate meaningful conversations and exchanges on sexual and reproductive health and rights (SRHR), promoting understanding, collaboration and shared decision-making. During the dialogues, participants recognized the evolving societal attitudes towards SRHR and emphasized the importance of open, non-judgmental communication between parents and young people. The cross-cutting outcomes from the dialogues were commitments to supporting young people to access accurate SRH information and services by organizing awareness campaigns and strengthening health and social support systems.

Additionally, the RHRN2 training, hosted by NHLRC, focused on building the capacity of partner organizations on intersectionality and inclusivity. Participants gained knowledge of human rights-based approaches, addressed biases and stereotypes, and explored the lived realities of marginalized groups. Discussions revolved around legal frameworks, inclusivity in workspaces, and strategies for promoting solidarity and inclusivity in SRHR programming. The training concluded with reflecting on past achievements and integrating newfound knowledge into partner organizations' current and future activities, furthering their commitment to equity and inclusion in SRHR.

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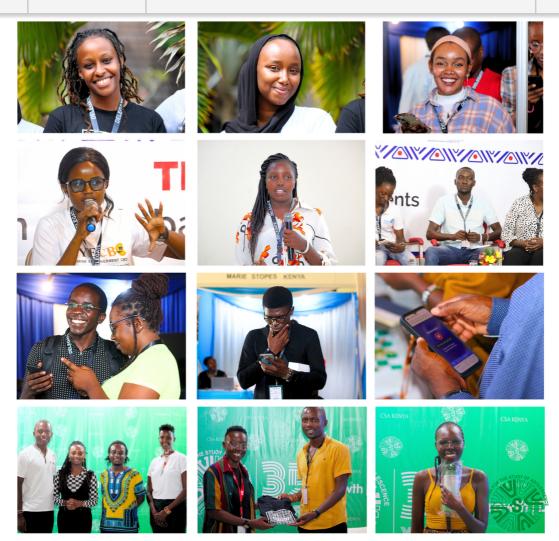
The community-based trainers(CBT) committee facilitated a crucial meeting with the youth, parents/caregivers, and selected local trainers/artisans to establish a common understanding of roles, expectations, community planning, budgeting, and training arrangements, among other essential aspects. In collaboration with the trainers, the CBT subcommittee developed a comprehensive schedule of topics during the training sessions. Subsequently, the selected group of participants was assigned to different fields based on their interests and market needs, and they embarked on the training journey for a specific period. The training curriculum encompassed valuable life and entrepreneurship skills, aiming to equip them for successful integration into the job market as service providers or aspiring entrepreneurs. The envisioned outcome was that the participants' newly acquired knowledge and skills would empower them to thrive and positively impact their chosen paths.

### Strengthening Capacity, and Transforming Communities



During the SHE SOARS project, both Kisumu and Bondo locations had the pleasure of hosting Mr. Philip, the GAC desk officer, to visit the project sites. The visit included engaging in courtesy calls with the county and sub-county health management teams and meeting with the Gender TWG. Mr. Philip also had the opportunity to witness community activities, including Community Scorecard sessions and girls' group sessions. The feedback from the GAC desk officer was highly positive, highlighting the effectiveness of the county and sub-county teams' engagement and the TWG's involvement. In the future, the SHE SOARS team will focus on enhancing the capacity of the Gender TWG at both county and sub-county levels to coordinate gender activities and respond to gender-based violence effectively. Additionally, the Bondo and Kisumu teams conducted a joint support supervision and mentorship visit to all 36 link facilities supported by the SHE SOARS project. This initiative aimed to strengthen the facilities' ability to provide comprehensive reproductive, maternal, child, and adolescent health services, specifically focusing on adolescent and youth sexual and reproductive health.

## The RHNK Conference 2023



The recently concluded conference at Diani Reef Spa and Resort and Spar Kwale County brought together diverse delegates from government CSOs, religious institutions, and youth advocates from different African countries who share a common goal of promoting adolescent and youth SRHR. Notably, international and national donors also participated in the event. Held over four days in Kwale County, the conference featured panel discussions, abstract presentations, and networking opportunities. Attendees gained insights into SRHR challenges, such as neglected teen moms in rural areas, and discussed the influence of religious institutions on adolescent SRHR. Our exceptional staff members took the stage, spotlighting their outstanding work and sharing invaluable best practices. The conference emphasized meaningful youth engagement and urged the government to fund AYSRH services. Participants committed to mobilizing young peers, leveraging technology, and promoting inclusion for young people with special needs. Key agreements included ensuring diverse youth participation, increasing AYSRH funding, championing regional commitments, and leveraging technology for SRHR. The event was an educational and collaborative platform, driving collective action to advance adolescent SRHR in Africa.

#### **On the Socials**

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