

METHODIST FEDERATION FOR SOCIAL ACTION -KENYA CHAPTER



A Project proposal for the training of Grassroots Community Human rights defenders towards realization of Equal Human Rights and Elimination of All Forms of Barriers against Vulnerable Groups in Kenya.

Introduction.

The MFSA Kenya Chapter envisions a community that uphold and protects human rights through education and capacity development of key grassroots institutions, networks that protects and promotes human rights and public dialogue on human rights ,and improve community access to the Justice.

Objective.

MFSA Kenya chapter aims to train Human rights defenders towards impact access to Justice.in local grassroots communities in Kenya.

Problem Statement & Justification.

Human Rights Defenders (HRD's) are an integral constituency for the work of the Methodist Federation for Social Action Kenya Chapter. However, the MFSA Kenya chapter lacks sufficient personnel with capacity to undertake advocacy and other work related to protection of Human rights. Most volunteers at MFSA-Kenya do not have sufficient training or understanding of matters of laws of the land; and the applicable conventions of protection.

Lack of capacity subjects the MFSA-Kenya Human rights defenders to other forms of abuse during the criminal justice processes. In addition, the work of Human Rights Defenders is sometimes not understood by the public who in many cases do not support their work. The fact that our local human rights defenders lack the sufficient capacity as rights holders to agitate for the rights of the oppressed, this pits them against the State particularly the law enforcement agencies who normally arrest them for allegedly acting outside the law. Recently ,Cases of Local LGBTQ+ and environment activities arrested and some killed [by land cartels] have been reported .It is paramount therefore to impact awareness at both individual and community levels on the fundamentals rights enshrined in Kenyans bill of rights as well as the United nations declaration on Human rights alongside other localized Human rights charters.

To address the above problem, the MFSA-Kenya Chapter proposes to build the capacity of Grassroots community Human Rights Defenders both at individual and institutional levels through trainings, seminars, conferences and consultative meetings.

The capacity building training will be preceded by a training needs assessment and a mapping exercise as part of our community mobilization. The MFSA-Kenya Chapter expects that the Human rights defenders will be equipped with the prerequisite legal and advocacy skills to enable them undertake their work more effectively and safely.

As an intermediate outcome, the MFSA anticipates that Human rights defenders will make use of the knowledge gained from this project to effectively and safely protect human rights and avoid endangering their lives and property as well as their families.

Further the MFSA-Kenya anticipates that Human rights defenders will comply with the law to advocate for rights; and that there will be reduced victimization and animosity between the justice mechanism and the Human Rights Defenders while community access to justice will be enhanced.

Through this project, the human rights defenders will be commissioned to be agents of change as rights holders in their local community levels and exercise rights, formulate policies and hold duty-bearers accountable towards building a community that uphold dignity for all.

The Approach

The project comprises three complementary fields of activity.

MFSA will initiate a Working partnership with community organizations, especially women and young people in rural areas, about their human rights. The aim is to use information and education initiatives to increase the population's resolve to demand respect, protection and the realization of their rights. To this end, the project will liaise with state and non-state actors on developing and implementing culturally sensitive awareness-raising measures.

The project will strengthen the role of faith based institutions and community leaders as right holders and hold duty bearers accountable for rights violations.

The project will in response to current challenges to human rights , train community paralegals and community justice commissioners in order to improve access to justice in rural areas. The trained community justice commissioners and paralegals will be equipped with skills to monitor, document and report of human rights violations. As community human rights defenders, they will provide information, mediate between those involved in a conflict or refer them to the appropriate authorities. The MFSA-Kenya will benefit from the resource of these trained human rights defenders and provide co-ordination, resource materials and supervision for maximum output.

Specific Activities to Be carried Out.

- I. **COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION.**
Our Community Mobilization component will engage communities in the identification of what needs to be done to promote justice. A total of 8 focus group meetings of 10 people each from church and community leaders across the counties will be conducted towards developing a framework of outreach and advocacy at grassroots community.
- II. **TRAINING**
Organizing MFSA-Kenya Community paralegal and justice training workshops for the 50 human rights defenders from 47 counties.
- III. **Establishing MFSA-Kenya local community Justice working groups/network at local grassroots community levels Commissioning of the community justice commissioners/ trained paralegals to start working with the community.**
- IV. **Monitoring the project progress, providing logistics and technical support to grassroots local chapter of MFSA . Project evaluation and reporting of the project.**

EXPECTED RESULTS

- 50 grassroots human rights defenders trained and commissioned as justice commissioners in respective grassroots villages
- As a result of the project's activities in the 47 counties, more than 23,500 women, men and young people [@500 per county] will be reached out in-directly and enlightened about various human rights issues at the end of the project.
- Improved community access to justice ,documentation and reporting.
- Improved human rights reporting on rights violations at grassroots community.
- Increased number of referrals on people facing human rights violations.
- Increased awareness on the rights of minorities including LGBTQ+,immigrant population, women, youths and persons with disabilities in Kenya.
- Establishing MFSA -Kenya grassroots community based justice outreach networking groups

MONITORING.

MFSA- Kenya Chapter will organize a need based training for established community human rights defenders in participatory monitoring and evaluation approach. The Human rights defenders network will apply participatory monitoring and evaluation methodologies in their day to day running of the activities. This will help formulating the indicators to measure the change as a result of the project. Focus group discussion will be conducted with the human rights defenders and other beneficiaries on quarterly basis to assess the changes brought about by the project, challenges, and proposed solutions and measure the achievement for each component.

A monitoring booklet will be printed for the community human rights defenders to fill details such as number of victims they have assisted in accessing justice, reporting to police, number of court cases attended or assisted victims to attend. We will also check if they have linked a victim with a lawyer for pro bono services and social status who have moved from rescue home or shelters. The report will be on monthly basis and a data base will be created.

ACTIVITY DURATION.

3 MONTHS .Projected Commencement Date September 2021.

Project budget Summary

Activities	Cost unit \$	No. of units	Total cost
I. Community Mobilization	100	08	800
II. Focus Group Discussions	200	08	1,600
III. Trainings	10	50	500
IV. Monitoring and evaluation	50	12	600
V. Administrative logistics	100	12	1,200
TOTAL PROJECT COST			4,700
MFSA-KENYA CHAPTER LOCAL COTRIBUTION			1,200
Request GRANT SUPPORT/FUND RAISER			3,500

**THE END
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SIGNED :

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|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Rev Sammy Kagwi | -Board Chairman |
| 2. Celestin Nzabonimana | -Board Secretary |
| 3. Caroline Wangari | -Board Treasurer |

