



## Human Rights Agenda

### Q4 - 1 October to 31 December, 2016

#### Region : Mombasa

#### Call : Call 1

### Project Context

PWDs in Kwale County lament over poor representation of their issues by the people nominated to do that work. Although HURIA enjoys good partnership with the nominated member of the County Assembly, PWDs feel the two representatives in the county assembly are not representing their issues adequately.

Negative attitude towards persons with disability has worked against their participation in economic development as well as in championing for their own rights. This translates to their low motivation in participating in the project activities. Due to previous experiences, they have low confidence in CSO's working on PWDs issues where they site exploitation in the name of helping them.

This project uses a human rights based approach where use of the constitution is indispensable. However, braille form of the constitution is not always available for the blind participants who have to rely on interpretation of what is read for them.

HURIA has also had to take good considerations of the venues chosen for Persons with disability for accessibility of those in wheelchairs. Almost all activities also happen at close proximity to where they live and in an easily accesible venue.

### Project Beneficiaries

Beneficiary	Male	Female	Total
PWDs	1163	943	2106
Youth	0	0	0
Minorities	0	0	0
Pupils	0	0	0
Students	3	0	3
Citizens	0	0	0
Total	1166	943	2109

Estimated number of indirect beneficiaries including those reached through media activities :  
**50000**

### Project Results

Target	40% of Citizens accessing justice
Result	
Comment	

## **Demonstration of project results / One Success story achieved with support from Amkeni this quarter**

### **Title of the story**

Celebration of Special Abilities

### **Context and Summary**

The United Nations International Day of Persons with Disability is celebrated on 3rd December of every year. This year, the national event of this day was marked in Kwale County. As part of this project, HURIA partnered with the National Government through the Ministry of East African Community, Labour and Social Protection, National Council for Persons with Disability, Kwale County Government, Local banks and other CSO actors in Kwale County to host the International Day of Persons With Disabilities whose theme was 'Achieving the 17 goals for the future we want'. This year's theme notes the recent adoption of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the role of these goals in building a more inclusive and equitable world for persons with disabilities. The celebrations were marked with high turn-out of Persons with Disability from all the four sub-counties of Kwale County and guests from different parts of the country.

### **Situation obtaining before intervention (Factual information about the problem)**

PWDs shy away from participating in public functions mainly because attitude attached to them by society members and the social exclusion they face. Those with physical impairment also have mobility problems where they may not be able to reach their desired site with ease. This is partly because of financial constraints or lack of walking aids such as wheelchairs or prosthetic legs. Majority of the PWDs are also not in the light with regard to the opportunities available for them from the devolution structure and the funds allocation set aside for them both at the national and county levels. It is also sad to note that PWDs are endowed with different talents and abilities that remain unexploited and unexposed. Majority of the PWDs are perceived as being a bother to their immediate family members and that they are only useful while begging in the streets with no form of economic generating activity or participation in public functions.

### **Interventions undertaken by IP and Community**

HURIA in partnership with the County Government and representatives of PWDs in the four sub-counties of Kwale County mobilised close to two thousand PWDs out of the targeted two thousand five hundred PWDs. PWDs who spoke during the celebrations challenged those present that disability is not inability. This is against the contrary belief that they can only be left to beg in the streets. A good example was Athumani Kibanda who is physically challenged and a beneficiary of this project through the Human Rights and Paralegalism Training. He stated that despite his impairment, he has been able to successfully raise a family of four children, participates in development activities such as in the County Bursary Committee and he is hoping to vie for Member of County Assembly position in his ward. PWDs with special abilities of making jewelries and traditional items also got the opportunity to showcase and sell their talents to the guests who had arrived.

### **Changes witnessed / Results**

Some of the PWDs who happened to be part of the Human Rights and Paralegalism Training got walking aids from the National Council of Persons with Disabilities (NCPWD). These PWDs whom HURIA identified as champions of this project got the opportunity to interact with the County coordinator for NCPWD who had been invited for the training and they had their details taken for the purpose of providing them with the artificial legs. The large turn-out of PWDs to the celebrations also marked an improvement in the community attitude towards PWDs and the zeal to participate in public opportunities that present themselves. This celebration also enhanced HURIA's partnership with stakeholders in improving the livelihoods of PWDs strengthening their capabilities. Through the speech given by the Permanent secretary, department of state protection, PWDs got to know about the allocations available for them both at the national and County level.

### **Gender Mainstreaming**

Most of the interior parts of Kwale County are pre-dominantly muslim and where the culture perceives women as home keepers only. This excludes women from participating in income generating activities and their work is only seen to be limited to household duties. In most

cases women are seen to be the ones behind social exclusion of PWDs once they are left to look after them. This projects is seeking to improve the perception that community members has with regard to the place of women in the society and also address the violations that PWDs face in the hands of their caregivers to the relevant duty bearers.

## **Partnerships**

HURIA is successfully partnering with United Disability Action Center(UDAC) in Strengthening Capabilities of PWDs to Access their Basic Rights and Fundamental Freedoms in Kwale County. They have been key in identifying the most deserving PWDs in this project and helping bring them on board to participate in the project activities. The National Council of Persons with Disability(NCPWD) through the Kwale County Cordinator has also been key in this project especially with regard to being accountable to the PWDs on the programs that NCPWD has been implementing in the County. The County Government through the Department of Social and Cultural Development and the County Assembly through the County Representative for Disability have also been useful partners in this project in ensuring through support of some of the activities such as the International Day of Persons with Disability. They have also come out to inform the PWDs of the programs and policies they are implementing for the benefit of PWDs. Persons with Disabilities groups and organisations in Kwale County have also been instrumental in informing this project of the underlying issues that PWDs face. Human Rights Organisations among them Kwale Human Rights Network have also strengthened the Human Rights Based approach used by this project.

## **Challenges encountered during project implementation this quarter**

Mobility of some if not most of the participants is a challenge especially those with physical impairment. For those living with albinism, there are security factors that are considered for their effective participation in the project activities where their family members consider escorting them to the project activity. This is the case since some of them are killed to be used for ritual purposes. The blind also have their caregivers who escort them to the venue of the activity.

To counter this challenge, HURIA meets with the participants at locations close to their locality where some of this places are in the interior parts of the County. With regard to the albinism children, HURIA has had to at least one participant being the escorted the person with albinism. This way, we are able to reach to the different categories of PWDs from various locations. The blind also have their caretakers who become part of the participants of the project activities.

## **Lessons Learnt about project implementation this quarter**

Partnerships with other stakeholders worked really well where many more participants were involved and benefited directly and indirectly from the project during the International Disability Day. It is from this partnership that some of the participants got walking aids that will help improve their well-being and ability to participate in income generating activities.

Majority of the PWDs have had not so good interactions with Civil Society Organisations who have worked on issues of PWDs previously hence in every project activity the PWDs have to be made to understand how this project will improve their livelihoods without taking advantage of their situation.

As a corrective action, we need to involve community members especially care takers of PWDs who are seen to be the perpetrators of the violations that PWDs face. We also need to integrate other stakeholders and institutions such as hospitals to sensitize them on the existence and importance of recognizing PWDs situations and according them the appropriate attention they need.

It was not anticipated that we would have participants with severe disability such a deaf and blind person.

Participants educating one another on how they have successfully benefited from government programs such as the cash transfer program. This was an approach that ensured the participants own the process. This was important as part of the project's way of getting feedback on the effectiveness of programs meant to benefit PWDs in the County.

Recommendations

Institutions such as the hospitals need to be sensitized on the need to give special attention to PWDs when they go to seek services. They also need to be made aware of the need to recognize PWDs ID cards in their institutions. This is mainly because these institutions contribute to violations of PWD's rights due to low knowledge on existence of these cards and negligence on their part.

There's need to include more community members and caretakers of PWDs in the upcoming activities in an effort to improve community's attitude towards PWDs. This is because, it was evident that community members are the main perpetrators of Human Rights violations from the cases documented..

Ward administrators need to be sensitized on the need to pay attention to the plight of PWDs since they are seen to be among the perpetrators of injustice towards PWDs where in most cases they delay or hinder access to information meant to benefit PWDs.

Pushing for a bill for PWDs in Kwale County that will cater for the needs of PWDs in Kwale County. This will be a way of resolving the perceived marginalization of PWDs in the County who feel left out and under-represented in various developmental issues. Their outcry is that there is need to mainstream PWD issues at all levels whether local, regional or national level.

Monitoring and Evaluation

M&E Activity	Key Outcomes / Observations	Recommendation	Action Taken
Assessments of the activity at the end of the activity	There is low knowledge of the rights that PWDs are entitled to in the constitution. Most Human Rights violations come from the community members.	Involving more community members in the activities that happen especially the caregivers of PWDs will help improve this attitude. Enhancing knowledge of PWDs Human Rights so that they can be able to claim them when they are denied	Part of the community members involved in the Human Rights cinics

Upcoming Activities Next Quarter

Activity	Venue	Date
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Risks and Mitigation Measures Undertaken

Risk	Mitigation Measure
Poor communication with the deaf participants	HURIA has identified interpreters drawn from the community members who become part of the participants in Human Rights Clinics and facilitate proper communication with the deaf participants
Failure of turn up by members of the community to the project activities. This is due to the negative attitude that persons with disability face from the community members hence they shy away from any form of public participation	HURIA has been able to bring on board the persons with disability through its partnership with United Disability Action Center(UDAC) since most of the PWDs have previously interacted with members of UDAC hence they heed to the call for participation in these activities.

Cumulative Financial Summary

Approved Budget :  
Total Expenditure :  
Balance of Funds :  
Delivery : %

Cumulative Financial Summary

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Date :

Project Donor(s)

UNDP



Photo 1: One of the beneficiary of HURIA's partnership with National Council for Persons with Disability receives a prosthetic leg during the International Day for Persons with disability.



Photo 2: Group discussions during a Human Rights Clinic at Matuga Sub-county



Photo 3: Ongoing sessions showing interpreters during a Human Rights and Paralegalism Training.