



**INADES  
FORMATION  
KENYA**

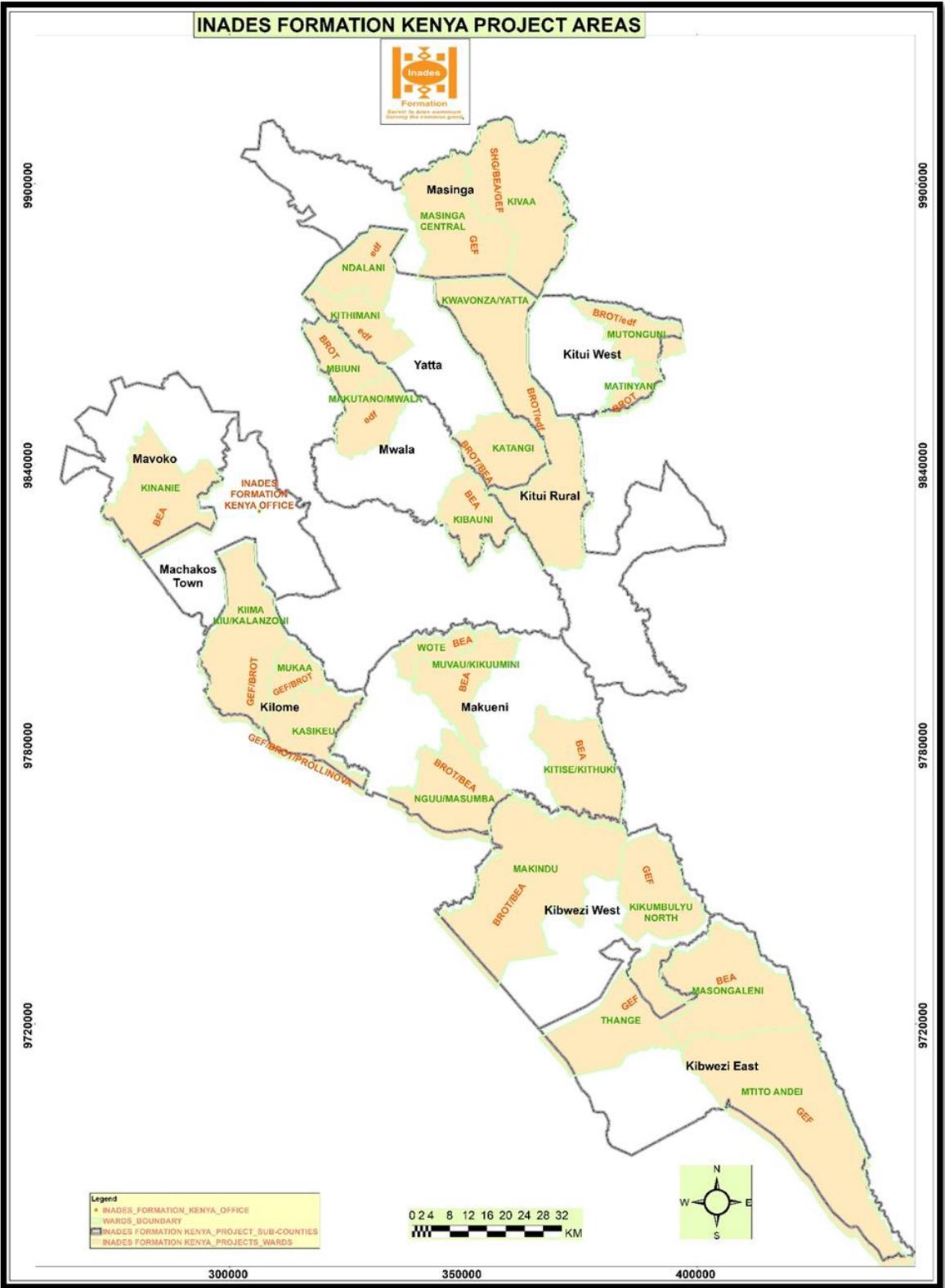
**ACTIVITY  
REPORT**

**2021**

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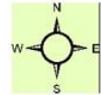
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# INADES FORMATION KENYA PROJECT AREAS



**Legend**

- ★ INADES FORMATION KENYA OFFICE
- WARD'S BOUNDARY
- ▭ INADES FORMATION KENYA, PROJECT, SUB-COUNTIES
- ▭ INADES FORMATION KENYA, PROJECTS, WARDS



### **Board Members 2021**

1. Gabriel Mbokothe	Chairperson
2. Onesmus Kyule	Vice Chairperson
3. Zaccheaus Jimmy Katiti	Treasurer
4. Bernard Kitonyi	Secretary
5. Jane Biashara	Member
6. Elizabeth Isika	Member
7. Nelson Mungála	Member

### **Staff Members 2021**

1. Joseph Munywoki	Managing Director
2. Elizabeth Wanja	Former Managing Director
3. John Mutua	Team Animator
4. Patrick Kioko	Chief of Administration & Finance
5. Mary Kago	Former Chief of Administration & Finance
6. Hellen Mangói	Project Officer (WSM)
7. Collins Owuor	Project Officer (CRAP)
8. Onesmus Mwangangi	Project Officer (LAIG, DWP)
9. Salome Mutua	Project Officer (SOFDEV)
10. Oscar Silali	Project Officer (FSAP, Livestock)
11. Meshack Ndambuki	Project Officer (FSAP, Crops)
12. Mercy David	Project Officer (SHGA)
11. Barack Ougo	Field Officer-DWP
12. Jacinta Muithya	Project Accountant
13. Bendatte Kimanthi	Office Administrator
14. Stephen Kavumbi	Driver
15. Anne Mutungi	Administrative Assistant

## List of abbreviations

AHP	Assistant Healthcare Providers
ASAL	Arid and Semi-Arid Lands
Bwft	Bread for the World
CRAP	Climate Resilient Agricultural Practices
CVC	Crops Value Chain
DTC	Drought Tolerant Crops
ECOBACC	Enhancing Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change
eDF	Energy Development Foundation
HH	Household
IFK	Inades Formation Kenya
KNCFE	Kenya National Committee on family farming
KNH	Kindernothilfe
LVC	Livestock Value Chain
PACDR	Participatory Assessment of Climate and Disaster Risks
PELUM	Participatory Ecological Land Use Management
PENELI III	Promoting elum and networking for livelihood improvement
SCMP	Sub catchment management plan
SHGA	Self-Help Group Approach
SOFDEV	Solidarity Fund for Development
TOTs	Trainers of Trainers
UNDFE	United Nations Decade of family farming
UNITAR	United Nations Institute for Training and Research
WDC	WRUA Development Cycle
WRUAs	Water Resource Users Associations

## **Acknowledgement**

In the year 2021, COVID-19 impacts continued to be experienced globally and in Kenya the impact was more felt by the rural farmers and other vulnerable population due to strict containment measures. COVID-19 vaccination brought in some relief from mid-year and the government of Kenya eased some of the containment measures. Climate vagaries had great impacts in marginal lands with devastating effects on livestock and crops in the Arid and Semi - Arid Lands (ASALs). The rain season was poor, it commenced late and had below-average cumulative amounts and poor distribution in both time and space and the majority of the farmers had poor yields. About 2.1 million Kenyans living Arid and Semi-Arid Lands (ASAL) counties of Kenya were food insecure during the year. Despite these external challenges, Inades Formation Kenya (IFK) Board of Directors and staff made great strides in delivering support and services to the rural farmers in the line with IFK vision of working towards a prosperous and influential rural world.

IFK team worked closely with our partners to ensure delivery of the programmes went on seamlessly. In 2021 a new phase of the programme Enhancing Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change, with support of Bread for the World covering three years begun. On the same note Brooke East Africa renewed our engagement for the year and also Self-Help Group Approach (SHGA). There were other programmes support that came in through World Rural Forum, United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and Energy Development Foundation (eDF). All these partnerships supported IFK endeavors to work for the economic and social advancement of the rural farmers through stimulating and accompanying the alternatives of development in our service of the common good.

The IFK team worked tirelessly to ensure the programmes were running smoothly and therefore great achievement as outlined in the activity report. We are grateful to our institutional partners, government and the community stakeholders for the great faith in our work and mutual engagements we had making our work a success. IFK shall continue to excel in our partnership engagement for the common good.

We thank you for taking time to read the report and your feedback is encouraged to inform us of our future interventions.



**Joseph Mwangela Munywoki**  
**Managing Director- Inades Formation Kenya**

## **1.0 Introduction**

During the year 2021, Inades Formation Kenya (IFK) commenced implementation of a three-year programme of Enhancing Community Based Adaptation to Climate Change (ECOBACC) continuation that is funded by Bwft at a rate of 67% and co-funded by other financial partners such as BEA and Kindernothilfe (KNH). The Organization embarked on very critical activities to set off the projects/programs. These activities included conducting of a baseline survey for the program, introduction of projects to target areas and conducting of an exploratory study in Kajiado County. We also forged strategic collaborations and partnership with stakeholders such as county and national governments, civil society organizations, private sector organizations among others.

IFK implemented nine projects during the year; these were; Watershed Management, Climate Resilient Agricultural practices, Crops value chain, Accelerating Uptake of Solar Powered Water Pumps and solar driers for Enhanced Food Security and nutrition in face of COVID-19, Livestock value chain, Donkey Welfare Project, Solidarity fund for development, Self Help Group Approach and Lobby, Advocacy and Inclusive Governance. There were other four short term projects implemented which are covered in this report. The activities implemented under these projects are presented in this report following the IFK thematic areas that include; Climate resilience and sustainable utilization of natural resources, Food system based on family agriculture, community microfinance and inclusive governance.

## **2.0 Interventions and outcomes**

### **2.1 Climate resilience and sustainable management of natural resources**

Rural communities are over dependent on natural resources for their livelihood. The fragile nature of natural resources informed by overharvesting of water and vegetation, overgrazing, sand harvesting and intensification of agriculture through utilization of Agro chemicals. This increases degradation of natural ecosystems which make up a watershed. The focus of line projects is to strike a balance between development for livelihoods, promotion and conservation of natural ecosystems for enhanced resilience and sustenance of livelihoods.

IFK intervenes through securing the availability of water harvesting and protection of water resources, protecting and conserving land and fragile water ecosystems, strengthening human and institutional capacities to oversee integrated water management and increasing capacity for the adoption of climate resilient agricultural practices.

#### **2.1.2 Watershed Management Project**

Watershed management component focuses on improving watershed management practices in the target sub catchment areas. To achieve this the component is strengthening

the capacity of local institutions and mainly Water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs) to initiate activities geared towards restoring their watershed and to have related policies implemented by December 2023. In the year 2021, IFK supported three (3) WRUAs which covers Machakos, Kajiado, Makueni and Kitui Counties. The focus areas of support were institutional strengthening, enhancing technical knowledge and stakeholder participation and coordination for effective service delivery to the target communities.

### **Strengthening of water Resource Users Associations (WRUAs)**

#### **Community mobilization and sensitization on integrated watershed management.**

In 2021 IFK profiled 3 WRUAs; The Ikolya, Lower Mwitasyano & Middle Mwitasyano. The Ikolya WRUA covers an area of about 204.60 km<sup>2</sup>. The subcatchment covers parts of Imaroro ward in Kajiado and Kiima/Kiu and Kasikeu Wards in Makueni serving an estimated population of **19,524** people.

Middle Mwitasyano sub catchment covers 5 locations; namely Katangi, Kyua, Ikombe and some parts of Yatta kwa vonza ward in Machakos and Kitui respectively spreading to an extent of **276 km<sup>2</sup>**.

Lower mwitasyano WRUA stretches through Kwa vonza, makusya, ndunguni/nyaanyaa, and some parts of Nthongoni locations of Yatta/kwavoza ward in Kitui rural sub county, Kitui county and Kyua location in Katangi ward Machakos County. The sub catchment covers an approximate area of **210 km<sup>2</sup>**

Community sensitization meetings were conducted targeting the communities living in the profiled watersheds. The meetings targeted Ikolya and Lower Mwitasyano sub catchments. A total of 601 community members were reached, 305 from Ikolya watershed, 227 from lower Mwitasyano watershed and 69 from Middle Mwitasyano watershed

The community members were sensitized on the concept of integrated watershed management. In all the locations the sensitization meetings were crowned with elections ensuring a good representation of the target communities within the WRUA leadership. The election also ensured a good gender representation among the elected community leaders. The WRUA was further supported with 1, 009 tree seedlings of different species to boost their tree planting efforts.

The sensitization meetings served as good forums for enhancing the community understanding on integrated watershed management and therefore cultivating the interest of the communities to participate in watershed management.

## Capacity building through trainings

A total of 75 elected community leaders from Ikolya watershed were trained imparting the necessary skills in order to help them have a better understanding of water resource management and their role as the grassroot stakeholder.

They were further enlightened on the WRUA Development Cycle (WDC) which is the framework upon which WRA/ WSTF and other actors gives financial support to eligible WRUAs to implement their Sub catchment Management Plans (SCMP) so as to improve the catchments and water resources.

A training was also conducted for Sweet farmers Ikolya SHG on watershed friendly agricultural practices with focus on organic and conservation agriculture. The training brought together a total of 33 farmers 15 men and 13 women and 5 youth. The farmers were supported to establish a demonstration farm which served as a centre for learning for the community members around within the Ikolya watershed.

## Development of watershed management plans

A total of 5 Community action plans were developed for Kalembwani, Ngaamba, Itumbule A, Itumbule B and Kiu clusters of the Ikolya WRUA. These are plans to guide the implementation of watershed management practices within the clusters. The CAPs served as vehicles for community inclusion and participation in WRUA activities. The cluster leaders further ensured that their action plans were referenced during the preparation of Sub catchment Management Plans for the WRUA.

A sub catchment management plan (SCMP) for Ikolya WRUA was developed through a consultative process. The SCMP outlines the water resources and WRUA institutional related problems within the Ikolya sub-catchment, causes and possible solutions. It further identifies activities to be carried out in order to improve/restore water resources (quantity and quality), improve catchment conditions and enhance livelihoods WRUA institutional management capacity.



### *Participant present their group discussion findings during a SCMP development process*

The SCMP will serve as both a document and a process for bringing together all the stakeholders to join hands in restoration of Ikolya watershed for a period of 10 years. This will enhance synergies and avoid duplication of efforts.

### **Project Outcomes**

Social inclusion for Ikolya and lower Mwitasyano – Previously most of the local institutions were led by men but through the village based (cluster) approach for community sensitization women were brought on board and were able to assume leadership roles. Empowered with knowledge they have successfully voiced their demands for necessitating actions.

Improved community participation and consultation during planning and budgeting processes at the county level.

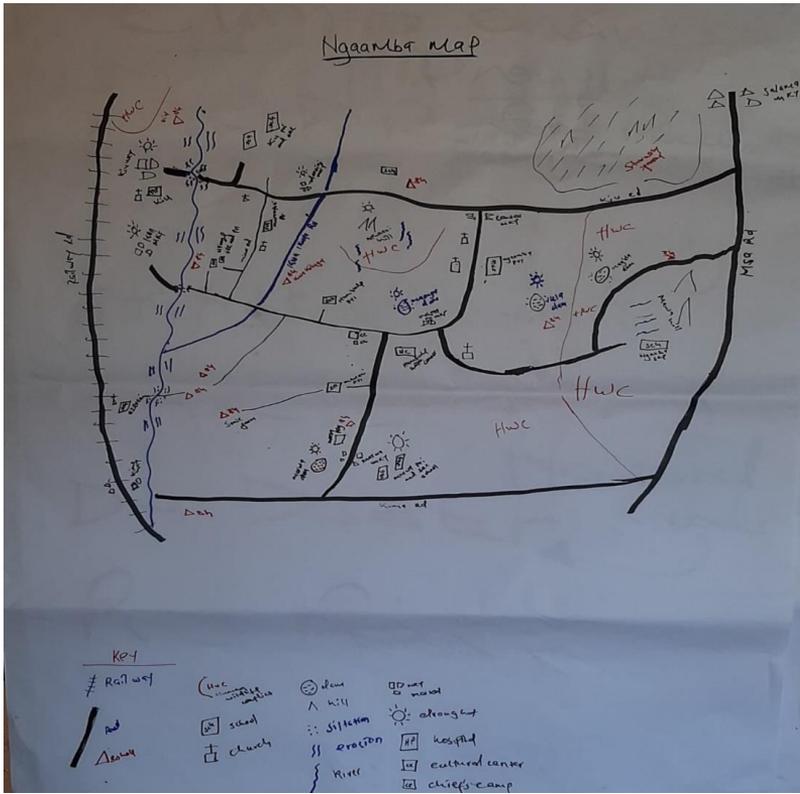
Increased access to information by the communities through the multistakeholder forums and sharing of the issues affecting across the different departments.

### **2.1.3 Climate Resilient Agricultural Practices**

Climate Resilient Agricultural Practices (CRAP) project aims at enhancing the management of watersheds. The project targets 2000 beneficiaries in Machakos, Makueni and Kitui Counties, to adopt at least a climate-resilient agricultural practice by December 2023. 420 beneficiaries were reached within 2021. In the year 2021, baseline studies confirmed continual degradation of watersheds and limited adoption of climate-resilient agricultural practices. The project uses participatory assessment of climate and disaster risk, onsite training and exchange visits to enhance climate adaptation

### **Participatory Assessment of Climate and Disaster Risk (PACDR)**

Climate hazards have increased in frequency and severity with associated disasters thereby adversely affecting community livelihoods and sustainability of ecosystem goods and services. IFK in collaboration with communities of Kitui Rural (Yatta Kwa Vonza Ward), Yatta (Katangi Ward, Kyua location, Kilome (Kiima Kiu Kalanzoni ward, Ngaamba location), national and county governments conducted PACDR exercises to analyze and assess climate risks and disasters.



A sample hazard map drawn in Ngaamba location, Kilome Sub- County during the PACDR exercise

PACDR process engaged 100 participants (43 men and 57 women) in three sub- counties of Kitui Rural, Yatta and Kilome, climate hazards, their impacts, immediate community responses were enumerated. The outputs of the 3- PACDR exercises identified the prevalent hazards to be drought, rainfall variability, soil erosion, locust invasion, pest, and diseases.



*Women undertaking a group exercise during PACDR exercise in Kyusiani, Kitui Rural*

Adaptation strategies were formulated for action by community members individually, collectively as a community, religious organizations, civil society organizations, non-governmental organizations and both the county and national governments. For example, to enhance community water access it was proposed that existing dams be de-silted and new sand dams constructed. This requires involvement of various county governments, thus for them to materialize community members need to advocate and petition the local governments through their representatives (elected and non-elected) or community-based organizations. Likewise, strategies that require individual or community action that's limited in scope of financial requirements can be implemented easily or through capacity building of target beneficiaries.

### **Climate Resilient Agricultural Practices Trained**

To advance implementation of various context-specific adaptation strategies, onsite training was advanced reaching 185 participants who were capacity built on low-cost water harvesting and organic manure preparation. Low-cost water harvesting for both household and farm moisture harvesting, and retention were prioritized because of the growing concern that prolonged drought and shifting rainfall patterns affect the sustainability of agricultural systems and viability of crops and livestock value chains to support farmer livelihoods.

Trainings on Terraces, Zai-pits, grass strips, stone lines and planting of trees were conducted.

Other practices like mulching were promoted to enhance soil conservation and soil moisture retention.

### **Upscaling of Improved Cookstoves**

Training of artisans in fabrication of improved cook-stoves was done in Machakos County, Yatta Sub- County. A total of 10 artisans were trained on fabrication of environmentally friendly cookstoves. The trained comprised of 8 male and 2 female youth. During the training period 25 cook-stoves were constructed by the trainees giving them practical experiences in the skill of making the improved jikos. As a result of this training 80 households in the area have shown interest in having the improved cook stoves. The competitive advantage is that the stoves utilize less firewood, produce less smoke and are safer compared to traditional three stone technologies still being used in most rural set ups. In Kilome subcounty, an area that was trained previously, the trained artisans continued installing the stoves for households reaching out to 24 households in the year 2021.



*An installed environmentally friendly cookstove constructed in Yatta sub- County*

### **Project Outcomes**

- Communities where PACDR were performed, formulated adaptation strategies and are petitioning key stakeholders to facilitate community- based projects
- Communities with installed environmentally friendly cookstoves save on firewood for cooking, thereby conserving trees and shrubs, thus abate carbon emissions
- Water harvesting technologies promoted soil and water conservation in farms.

### **2.2.0 Food Systems Based on Family Agriculture**

Food systems based on family farming focuses on improving family famers livelihoods through production and marketing of their crops, livestock and value-added products. This thematic area is addressed by 4 key project areas;

- (i) Food security and agribusiness project- Crops value chain (Fruits, DTC and Vegetables)

- (ii) Food security and agribusiness project- Livestock value chain (Indigenous Chicken and meat goats-Galla goat)
- (iii) Solar energy solutions based on irrigated agriculture
- (iv) Donkey welfare project.

### **2.2.1. Food Security and Agribusiness Project**

Food security and agribusiness project focused on two components; Crop value chain and livestock value chain. The two components promote production and marketing aspects through capacity building, linkages and collaboration. Capacity building was done through groups training and inter group learning programs while marketing was achieved through formation of functional marketing networks to coordinate marketing activities among groups and the entire community and establishment of market linkages. Crop value chain promotes production and marketing of fruits, vegetables and drought tolerant crops while livestock value chain promotes production and marketing of indigenous chicken and meat goats. The marketing bit of the farm produce is inseparable as most producers are mixed farmers. IFK came up with marketing committees in the six sub counties that are farmer led and will be facilitated further by a marketing App that is in progress and will be launched in 2022.

### **2.2.2. Crops Value Chain (CVC)**

In the year 2021, crop value chain project was implemented in six sub counties (Kibwezi west, Kilome, Kitui rural, Yatta, Kitui west and Masinga) and reached a total of 536 direct beneficiaries through onsite trainings, learning trips and onsite farm demonstrations for the purpose of building farmers knowledge and skills. The trainings were based on fruit establishment and management, DTC production and value addition as well as vegetables production and marketing.

#### **Project progress**

Crop value chain is one of the components in food security and agribusiness project that focuses on improving food security and income levels of the targeted households through marketing of both raw and value-added products. The project emphasized on building capacities of farmers through trainings on agronomic production principles of DTC (cowpeas, sorghum, pigeon pea, green grams, cassava, sweet potato and millet), fruits (mangoes, oranges, paw paws) and vegetables (kales, tomatoes, water melons, French beans) as well as collective marketing through formation of sub county marketing networks.

For the success of marketing, in all the six sub counties (Masinga, Yatta, Kibwezi west, Kilome, Kitui rural and Kitui west) marketing networks of 7 member committees were

established and their responsibility is to coordinate marketing activities for crops on behalf of farmers and groups with potential buyers and processing companies.

For the committees to enhance their marketing potentials, IFK through the project, organized stakeholders marketing forum that brought together processing companies and potential buyers in all the value chains and representatives of the committees were able to get direct linkage for the benefit of selling their raw produce and value-added products. In addition, learning and marketing trips were organized and conducted with committees able to visit some of the processing companies (sweetunda company, Jomba millers, Mule and sons Farm as well as Best tropical fruits companies). They all deal with value addition and processing of Fruits, DTC and vegetables and our marketing committees were able to enter in to contractual farming for the benefit of their groups and general community.

### **Project Outcomes**

Through marketing initiatives, farmers had the opportunity to link directly with processing companies and potential buyers and this improved their income potentials. This was evident in sense that, farmers were selling 1 kg of mangoes, citrus and paw paws at ksh 15/= locally on average to brokers (January 2021) but the price increased to Ksh 35/= per kilogram on average (December 2021) as offered by Best tropical fruits company which is based in Machakos. Sweet potatoes and cassava were sold at ksh 20/= per kilogram (January 2021) but their price increased to Ksh 45/= per kilogram (December 2021) as offered by sweetunda processing company where linkage was done. Sorghum and green grams were sold at ksh 30/= and 70/= on average respectively locally (January 2021) but after farmers were linked with Jomba millers they were able to sell at ksh 55/= and ksh 140/= respectively (December 2021) which translates to an increase in income.

As per the project baseline survey, fruits production-Mangoes, Citrus & Paw paws was at (22.6%) 4.63 tons but this has improved to 5.58 tons annually which translates to 20.5%. The average production of DTC (Green grams, cow peas, pigeon peas and sorghum) was 57.5kg and this has increased to 73.8kgs on average which translates to 28.3%

Through marketing networks establishment, linkages and operations, 186 farmers benefited out of 536 farmers reached in the year where they sold on average 5.58tons of Mangoes, paw paws and citrus cumulatively, 2.64 tons of root crops (cassava and sweet potato) and 0.63 tons of green grams and sorghum.

By the end of the year 2021, the project sampled 181 beneficiaries out of 532 beneficiaries reached through trainings and follow ups. The sample size established that; during October – December rains numbers of fruit trees (mangoes, paw paws and citrus) went up from 20 fruit trees to 23 fruit trees on average, this translates to 15% increase.



*IFK officer and farmer from Yatta Kwa-Kwavonza ward in Kitui rural sub county in her fruit farm during October – December rains in 2021 during one of follow up visit.*

### **2.2.3. Solar Energy Solutions for Rural Communities**

Inades Formation Kenya through energy development foundation (EDF) supported 23 farmer groups with solar equipment, solar pumps and solar driers. All the 23 groups benefited with solar pumps of which 11 of them also benefitted with solar driers because of their scale of production and commitments towards producing vegetables and root crops especially cassava and sweet potato that plays a critical role in terms of nutrition in the rural community.

The project addressed challenges of food security and nutrition affecting rural community in face of covid-19 which posed a challenge to most farmers. The essence of the project was to improve production levels at a low cost where farmers were supported with solar pumps for irrigation and solar driers for preserving their produce especially vegetable and root crops by drying them.



*Upendo SHG benefited with a backup solar drier at Yatta kwavonza ward in Kitui Rural.*



*service provider from Sunculture explaining and demonstrating to stakeholders how solar pump works during stakeholder's forum in Kitui County.*

### **Project Outcomes**

Through embracing solar energy solutions technology and trainings, farmers were able to increase acreages of land under cultivation, reduced cost for production, increased quantity of produce and improved variety consumption by farmers, that contributed significantly to nutritional levels among the rural households. 123 farmers purchased solar lighting equipment and 92 purchased solar water pumps for irrigation. Through group

discussions and follow ups at individual levels, farmers had invested their returns in keeping chicken, operating barber shops, operating salons, buying water harvesting tanks, installation of drip irrigation kits, women opened and operated green groceries, households bought young heifers with a focus on milk production and paying school fees for their children. The project achieved 683.8 metric tons of carbon dioxide avoided through embracing solar lighting gargets and solar pumps for irrigation as well as reduced levels of greenhouse gases that contribute to global warming.

#### **2.2.4. Livestock Value Chain (LVC)**

The Livestock Value Chain component under the Food Security and Agribusiness project focuses on improving the production levels of small holder farmers in the rural setups of Machakos, Makueni and Kitui counties. This component strives to ensure strong and adaptable livestock breeds are incorporated into the breeding program.

#### **Project progress**

Capacity building on various techniques necessary to boost poultry production and to improve goat breeds in order to realize maximum production was done hence it yielded immensely. Out of the projected target beneficiary number of 400 for 2021, 466 were reached. Due to the emerging trends in poultry, IFK partnered with large scale farms such as Dekachic Ltd, Kenchic Ltd and companies such as Kukuchic Ltd and Biyinzika Ltd in aiding farmers to graduate into the improved Kienyeji farming. These breeds; Sasso, Kenbro, Rainbow Rooster, Kari Kienyeji and Kuroiler have a faster growth rate hence fetching fast cash for farmers as they are ready for market at 3.5 months as opposed to the indigenous that takes over twice the same period.



*IFK Livestock Officer conducting an onsite training on poultry production to Kyeni Kya Kwemaa group in Ngaamba, Kilome sub county.*

IFK in collaboration with the Ministry of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, County and National government successfully formed a 14-member marketing committee in each of the 6 sub counties i.e., Masinga, Yatta, Kilome, Kibwezi west, Kitui Rural and Kitui West. The committees have a 7-member executive committee that is charged with managing the marketing affairs of the community led market enterprises and also acts as a link between farmers and potential buyers. The farmers were united with new potential buyers and processors that included Eastmeat Limited and Kenmeat Limited that deal with both poultry and meat goat processing and exporting. Through the feed formulation certain farmer groups such as the Mission of hope foundation C.B.O in Kilome Subcounty have ventured in commercializing the feed enterprise as they are currently selling up to a quarter a tonne daily. The main aim is to empower farmers productively and financially. IFK is currently coming up with a digital marketing app that will unite farmers, buyers and relevant stakeholders.



*Machakos County Assistant Chief Officer of Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries addressing a stakeholders Marketing Forum for the three counties of Machakos, Makueni and Kitui.*

### **Project Outcomes**

- The average chicken production per household was established to be 30 birds per sampled Households (IFK Baseline Report 2021). This went higher to an average of 41. The intention is to push farmers to a level of rearing 100 birds/HH by 2023.
- Chicken prices increased from an average of Ksh. 540 as quoted in the IFK Baseline report 2021 to Ksh.750 as per the data collected in selected regions of Masinga, Yatta and Kibwezi west. This was fueled by the interaction of farmers directly with the buyers.
- The increased chicken numbers and better prices led to an improvement in livelihoods as the sampled number of project beneficiaries (93%) were attesting to

the fact of being able to have three meals that are of balanced diet in a day as opposed to the (89%) at the baseline stage.

### **2.2.5. Donkey Welfare Project**

IFK in partnership with BEA, County governments of Makueni and Machakos have since the year 2020 been keen on advocating and championing for the improvement of donkey welfare. This has been achieved through community engagement, provision of animal health services and advocacy approaches. The project is being implemented in Masinga, Yatta, Mwala and Mavoko sub-counties of Machakos County, Kibwezi East, Makueni and Kibwezi West sub-counties of Makueni County. The project also intends to expand to Kajiado County with exploratory study having been conducted.

#### **Strengthened community structures and livelihood.**

In order to realize improved and sustainable donkey welfare, community structures should be strengthened. In 2021, three water troughs and water kiosks were established; 2 in Katangi and 1 in Masongaleni benefiting 132 donkey owners and 176 donkey owners from Yatta (Katangi) and Kibwezi East (Masongaleni) respectively. A total of 559 donkeys benefited through access to clean water and increased feeding time as a result of reduced work time. 75 group leaders representing 35 donkey owner groups from Machakos and Makueni counties trained on financial literacy and linked with financial institutions (Musoni, UTS). Twelve (12) donkey owners' groups from Masinga and Kibwezi West sub-counties trained on poultry production and crops value chain as means of improving their production so as to achieve sustainable produce.



*Donkeys taking water at IFK constructed community water trough*

### **Improved Animal Health Provision**

In order to realize quality, affordable and accessible livestock health in the community, Six AHPs from Makueni and Machakos were linked to donkey owners for further service delivery, 31 Veterinary officers and interns from Makueni and Machakos counties (11 from Makueni County and 20 from Machakos County) introduced to AHMF and AMF and 379 donkeys from Machakos and Makueni treated during the three donkey clinic exercises conducted at Masongaleni and Eendei.



*Ectoparasite control in a foal*



*Vet officer treating sick donkey*

### **Project Outcomes**

It is worth noting that most donkey owning communities from Makueni and Machakos counties now seek veterinary services on donkey cases, an improvement from baseline study which revealed that most donkey owners were reluctant to seek veterinary services despite doing so for other livestock. It is also of utmost importance to note the attitude, knowledge and change of practices among donkey owners towards donkeys, most of who now recognize the contributions of donkeys to their livelihoods. Of the 1692 donkey owners reached so far with onsite trainings and workshops on donkey welfare and management, 971 (57.388%) have been noted to adopt improved donkey welfare practices such as proper loading and maximum feeding time allowance. These changes have been observed mostly on women at 54.685% representing 531 women and 440 men (45.314%). Reporting of donkey clinical cases to veterinary service providers have also increased from 23% at baseline to 37%. This has been due to continued linkage of the donkey owners with the local Animal Healthcare Providers (AHPs).

### **2.3: Community Microfinance**

Financial access is a major concern among rural farming communities characterized by low-income levels. Access to credit facilities from formal financial institutions to support their agricultural and livestock activities is limited due to the fact that they are increasingly

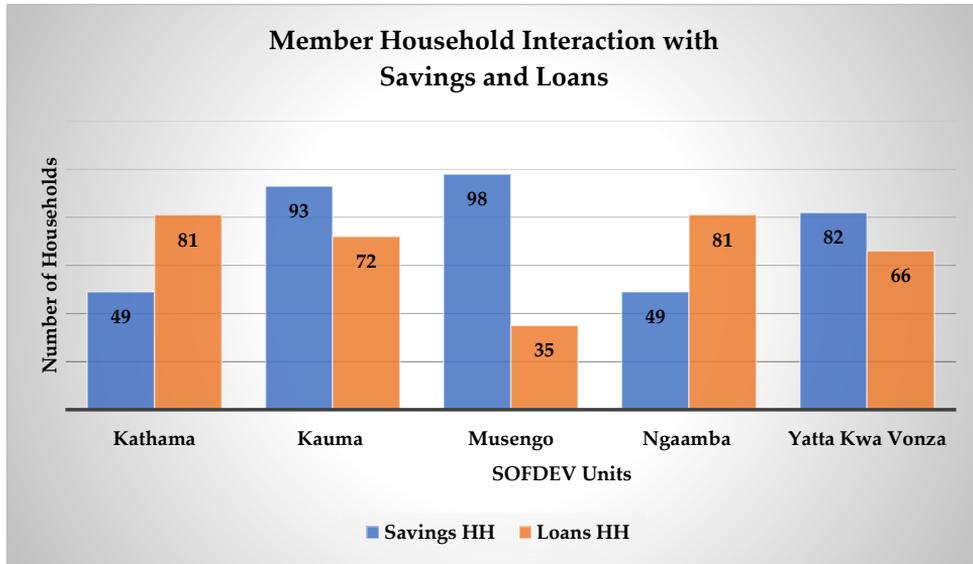
becoming risky ventures in the face of climate change. Harnessing and accumulating financial resources by the low-income earners provide a source of affordable long-term investable capital. Inades Formation Kenya is implementing unique community microfinance models that are owned and managed by the communities to address the challenge. The models promoted by IFK are; Solidarity Fund for Development (SOFDEV) and Self-help group Approach (SHGA).

### **2.3.1 Solidarity Fund for Development (SOFDEV)**

SOFDEV is a financial model that provides affordable savings and loan products at favorable terms to the small-holder farmer, small and middle entrepreneurs. Through this model rural communities have been supported to meet their socio-economic needs. SOFDEV units continue to impact the communities where they are established as they improve on financial access. During the year 2021, IFK supported 5 SOFDEV units in three counties of Kenya's Eastern region i.e. Machakos County; Kathama unit, Kitui County; Musengo, Kauma and Yatta/Kwa Vonza units and Makueni County; Ngaamba unit. Recently IFK conducted preliminary activities including meetings with the local administration and the community in Mweini location, Nguumasumba Ward in Kibwezi West sub-county in order to establish a new unit. The Yikivomwe SOFDEV brings the total SOFDEV units supported by IFK to a total of 6 units.

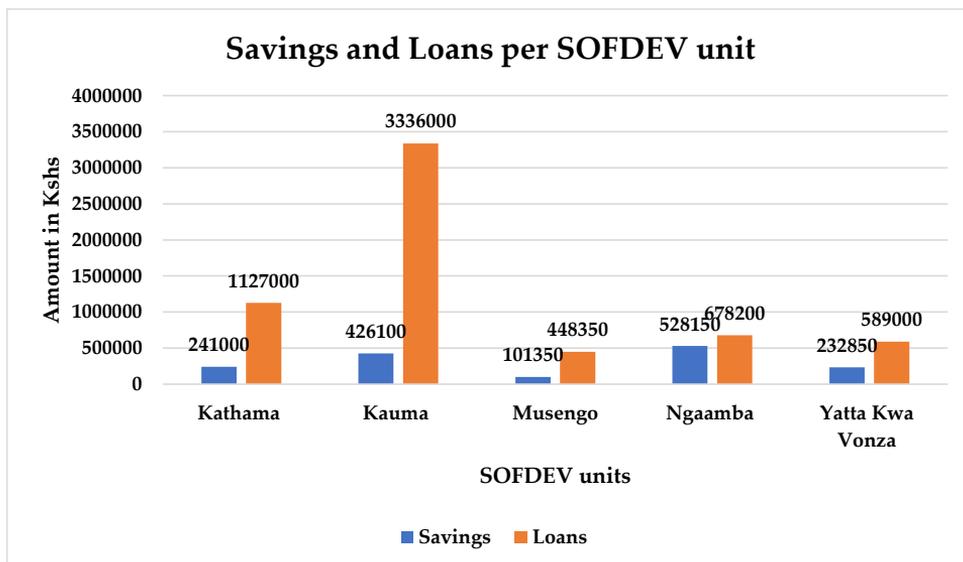
The affordable and more accessible financial products and services has encouraged members to interact with the SOFDEV units. Members not only undertake agribusiness but also engage in small and medium sized enterprises which has in turn improved livelihoods.

Graph I: Interaction of member households with the SOFDEV products



A total of 115 beneficiaries out of target 200 beneficiaries utilized credits for economic empowerment through initiating investments as a result of savings and credits from the SOFDEV units

Graph II: Unit based Savings and Loans performance



## **Project Outcomes**

The SOFDEV units in the reporting period were able to serve their members through their savings and loans products. The agricultural loan and the business loan were preferred among the SOFDEV units.

The introduction of the SOFDEV model to Kibwezi West encouraged the community to accommodate and build their own community owned and managed rural microfinance institution. This is unique as the community is used to receiving already designed financial vehicles which they have minimal to no control at all.

The members of Kathama SOFDEV unit were able to benefit from the purchase of seeds and fertilizers at a favorable price from the SOFDEV unit since the introduction of the farm enterprise initiative. This has had an overflow impact as the community members were also able to purchase the farm inputs at affordable prices.

Mobile banking in Ngaamba SOFDEV continued to impact the unit's members who had ease in making payments from wherever they were and further reduced the expenditures on transport

## **Case Study**

Ngwatano ya Iveti, Kavumbu meaning Unity of Women, Kavumbu is a women's group that was started in 2018 by a group of women who wanted to build each other socially and economically. The group is made up of 23 women from the Kavumbu area, Kauma location, Kitui West sub-county. In the same year of formation and after 6 months of operation, the group joined Kauma SOFDEV having seen the success of other groups that are members of the unit. The group then started making contributions at the group level according to members' economic ability and eventually started saving with the SOFDEV's current savings account. Soon the group was thrilled by the benefits that the SOFDEV members were getting at an individual level and decided to pay for their members to also become individual shareholders of the SOFDEV unit.

In December 2021 the group having made consistent monthly contributions amounting to Kshs. 473,475, withdrew the same amount in order to distribute to its members according to their individual contributions. Members were able to utilize the savings in different ways including; increase of stock for the small and middle enterprise, purchase of farm inputs for the November-December planting season, purchase of food for their households and payment of fees at the beginning of the following year. At the beginning of the year 2021 the group had planned to prepare tree seedlings during the long rains, however the delay of the rains frustrated their plans. Members however resolved to set apart part of

the savings to pursue the same in 2022. In addition, the group was able to contribute to the SOFDEV's income having paid a commission at the withdrawal of the savings.

### **2.3.2. Self Help Group Approach**

SHG Approach is a rights-based approach that views poverty as a core obstacle to the enjoyment of human rights as it limits and restricts people's access to natural and financial resources, basic services and inhibits access to social, economic, and political participation. Children compose the dominant number of people living in poverty and are the hardest hit as there are inherent implications to their physical and socio-economic development.

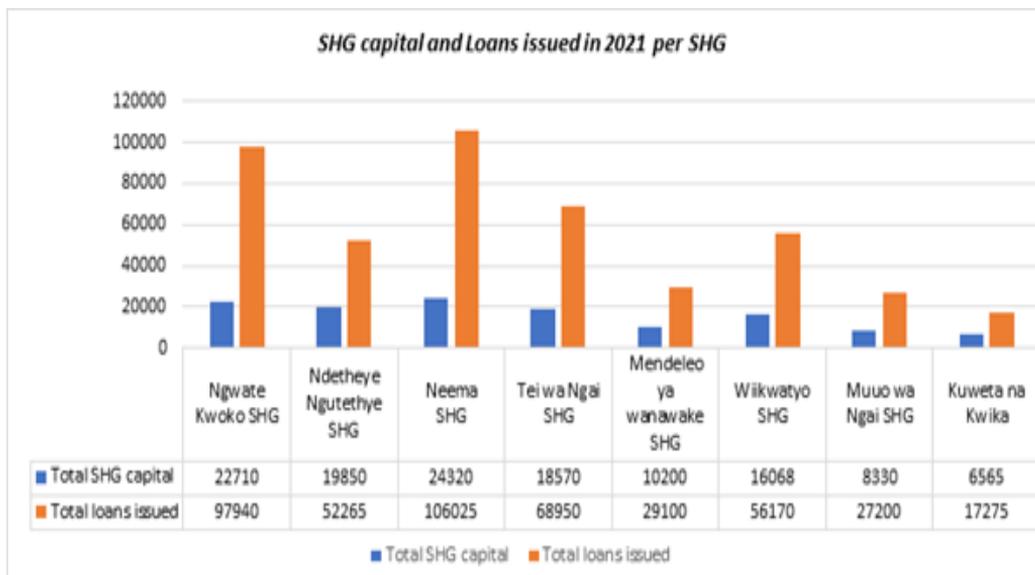
To combat rural poverty, Inades Formation Kenya partnered with Kindernothilfe (KNH) to implement the Self-Help Group Approach (SHGA) in Kithyoko location, Masinga sub-county, Machakos County. SHGA seeks to provide people with the building blocks to lift themselves out of poverty, hence contributing to the realization of human rights. The model seeks to reach the very poor family households and does so by going through the women in the households.

#### ***Number of direct and Indirect beneficiaries reached through SHGA***

In 2021, IFK facilitated the formation of 12 Self Help Groups in Machakos County, Masinga sub-county, Kithyoko Sub-location across 4 villages; Ngomola, Musingi, Mwatungo, and Kiswiiswiini. Since its implementation, in May 2021, 243 women have actively participated in the formation of the 12 SHGs, with 226 benefiting from the savings and loaning products at the SHGs.

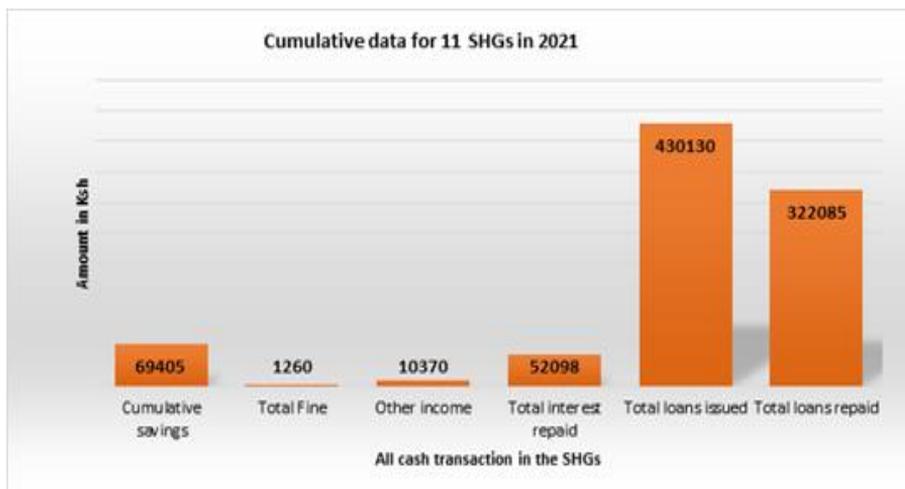
#### ***Savings and loaning at the SHGs.***

IFK supported 11 SHGs to set a savings amount and understand how to issue group loans among its' members. With consistent savings, the groups' capital increased significantly which reflected in the loans issued.



This bar graph shows the savings and loan uptake at the SHGs. For instance; Ngwate kwoko SHG, the groups loan saving ratio is 1:4. This can be interpreted that the group's capital issued as loans to the SHG members was four times, therefore members were interacting with the SHG loan product.

**Consolidated SHGs financial data for 2021.**



**Capacity building at the SHG level.**

Capacity building of the formed SHGs was purposed to guide the women groups in understanding the importance of Self-Help Group Approach, saving and loaning at the group level, social capital and social support, basic business skills, and individual goal setting with the support of 2 selected Community facilitators (CFs). Through the weekly

training, SHG members were noted to improve their saving frequency, loan uptake, identified diverse businesses each can start, and set short-term and long-term individual/personal goals for their families.



*Kyeni kya Aka SHG in mwatungo village holding one of their weekly meetings.*



*Community volunteers placing household cards on a village map during a social mapping exercise in Mwatungo village.*

## **Project Outcomes**

The self-help groups through the SHGA benefited the poor women who had a hard time sourcing food due to the prolonged drought. Their indigenous weekly savings of Ksh. 20 gave them micro-credits as low as Ksh 100 to support them to provide food for their families. With an increasing micro-credit, members were able to get loans for their children's education/learning materials and healthcare services.

### **2.4 Lobby, Advocacy and Inclusive Governance**

Lobby, Advocacy and Inclusive Governance project aims at empowering the citizens in target areas to actively exercise their democratic rights on issues affecting their livelihoods. The project specifically targets to increase citizens' awareness on policies, and to also increase community's avenue, and comprehension to influence policy and decision-making processes through active public participation. The implementation strategies used included building the capacity of stakeholders on advocacy, analyzing of the policy environment to identify gaps and engagement of the duty bearers on policy dialogue. The project was based on low public participation in the policy and legislation processes, governance, and lack of awareness on the existing policies, legislations and human rights.

#### **Main activities carried out during the year**

Two (2) Community Advocacy networks were constituted (Kibwezi west and Masinga sub county advocacy networks with membership of 17 and 21 respectively). This is in addition to the other four existing community advocacy networks in Kitui rural, Kitui west, Yatta and Kilome constituencies.

Engaged and participated in the National policy and legislations in strategizing on the agriculture and environment policy reviews and dialogue with the relevant authorities and institutions.

Observed national event days; Donkey Day and World Food Day. Community members joined in celebration of National donkey day at Masongaleni, Kibwezi East Makueni County, 203 donkeys were treated.

Local radio, electronic and print media engaged to reach to different audience on donkey welfare, Family Farming and conservation of environment. Six local media channels engaged (Kamba TV, Mang'elele FM, Musyi FM, Mbaitu FM, Athiani FM and County FM). Other national media channels were also used in creating awareness such as KTN and Nation. The print media engaged were Standard and Nation.

Developed IEC Materials with advocacy message to ensure visibility such as staff branding materials, roll-up and road banners, tear drops. Branding of project sites on donkey welfare was also done.

## Project Outcomes

Through community advocacy, the project in the year 2021 managed to profile, create awareness and organize 35 community groups (donkey owners/users' groups) into a strong and robust alliance who championed for donkey welfare in Machakos and Makueni counties.

The Machakos County donkey slaughter house remained closed even after the ban on same was lifted. The Community open dialogue forum which brought together community members from Machakos and Kitui Counties and National and County government officials, condemned and presented a petition on the court ruling the re-opening of donkey slaughter houses.



Figure 1: Dialogue Conference on donkey slaughter house re-opening - Masinga sub county, Machakos

The Kenya National Committee of Family Farming mandated on the implementation of United Nations Decade of Family Farming 2019 – 2028 was facilitated and managed to develop the National Action Plan based on the Global Action Plan for Family Farming.

Presented memorandums on the agriculture policy reviews – on plant protection (general, biological, export and import, decontamination of vehicle and machinery equipment and plant protection bill)

Capacity gap assessment identified areas of strengthening the community advocacy committees especially on social audit and accountability. There is engagement of the county government by the network members on community projects, however, there is need for more capacity to ensure continued social audit and accountability by the duty bearers.



Figure 2: Kenya National Committee of Family Farming NAP development meeting

- <https://nation.africa/kenya/business/seeds-of-gold/government-urged-to-support-family-farmers-3655760>.
- <https://youtu.be/oAYmwaBMsMo>

## 2.5 Short Term Projects

The institution implemented four short term projects. One of the projects was Challenge fund project that was funded by World rural forum to strengthen capacity of Kenya National Committee on family farming (KNCF). The project also sensitized and built capacity of family farmers and other stakeholders. A National Action Plan on family farming was developed to guide in the implementation of the United Nations Decade of family farming (UNDF). The other project was aimed at building women and youth entrepreneurial capacities for peace in Machakos County. The project commenced with research on four thematic areas; Social and economic empowerment of the Boda boda sector, Agriculture, Entrepreneurship, and Advocacy/peace building. The survey will culminate in development of a project around these thematic areas including support to youth with electric motorcycles. This survey was funded by United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) and was administered by IFK in Collaboration with the County government of Machakos. These two projects presented further opportunities for collaboration and partnerships.

A project supported by Pelum Kenya "Promoting elum and networking for livelihood improvement" (PENELI III). The goal of the project is to improve food sovereignty, nutritional variety, strengthening resilience and sustainable use of natural resources for

small scale farmers and pastoralists. Finally, a project focusing on mapping and supporting innovators was implemented in collaboration with Prolinnova Kenya.

### **3.0 Challenges faced**

1. Covid-19 containment measures limited community participation in large numbers and especially during community sensitization meetings. There was also time overlaps as result of activities being postponed during the lockdown. The pandemic generally had negative effects to the social and economic facets of the communities.
2. Delayed onset of the Oct-Dec rains impaired the planning and investment in restoration activities such as planting of trees by the farmers since it was anticipated that there will be a drought.
3. Over expectations by some community members from SHGA target groups, their expectation was informed by different approaches employed by different development agents in the areas especially those who give handouts to communities.

### **4.0 Lessons learnt**

1. Stakeholder participation should be recognized in terms of type of contribution; for example, whether they are providing support or they are participating to build synergy and therefore save on cost of undertaking cross-cutting functions.
2. Proactive engagement of project participants can help in planning and be able to design any activities based on their priorities and expectations.
3. Timely execution of preliminary activities significantly determines achievement of subsequent activities and tasks.
4. In order to train the target beneficiaries within the stated implementation period and ensure there is sustainability of the project, IFK should focus on training more TOTs to be engaged as farmer resource persons.
5. Integration of the administration and county government offices is very vital for the success of a project. This increases the knowledge pool and also boosts the community's confidence in the project and its activities.
6. We are not a monopoly of intellectual resource hence involving other experts and visiting line specialists adds more value to the final output delivered to the community. This was mostly visible with the visit to processors and improved breeding farms and hatcheries for knowledge and information search.
7. Rear sale and not the Rear and Sell. This is proving to be the best approach to empower farmers. This implies that farmers planning to venture in commercialization of their produce first enter into contractual agreements with the buyers or processors so as to avert losses that may come up due to market uncertainties.



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