



PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION REPORT

FEDWEN Kenya (Federation of Deaf Women Empowerment Network) is a civil society organization formed in 2008 to advocate for inclusion; rights and opportunities for Deaf women and girls.

Our mission is to excel in the provision and facilitation of coordinated quality services and activities geared towards the realization of equal rights and opportunities for Deaf women and girls through empowerment and advocacy.

Our vision is an inclusive society where Deaf persons enjoy equal rights and opportunities.

Our mandate is to advocate for the rights, recognition and inclusion of Deaf women and girls in Kenya.

The **strategic plan 2023-2028** highlights key strategic issues that need our focus as listed below;

1. Limited recognition and lack of acknowledgement of the specific needs of Deaf women and girls' access to sexual reproductive health rights and services.
2. Negative attitudinal disposition of society towards the Deaf Community generally and Deaf women and girls in particular.
3. Inadequate functional communication between Deaf children and their parents.
4. Limited access to timely and accurate information from public bodies and lack of capacity in the use of digital information and communication technology.
5. Unequal access to employment opportunities.
6. Lack of awareness on issues of concern to Deaf women and girls at the County level.
7. Discrimination of Deaf learners by parents in pursuing tertiary education.
8. Lack of access to justice and legal aid.
9. Exclusion of Deaf women from effective participation in public life.
10. Institutional weakness: lack or inadequate resources (financial and skills).

Key result areas related to our strategic issues are;

1. Enhanced levels of awareness and recognition of specific needs of Deaf women and girls' sexual reproductive health rights.

2. Reduced negative perception towards the Deaf Community, especially women and girls and issues affecting them.
3. Improved and effective communication between parents and Deaf children.
4. Members of the Deaf Community, especially women and girls have access to timely and accurate information from public bodies and are able to use digital technology.
5. Increased levels of access to employment and economic opportunities by Deaf women and girls.
6. Improved access by Deaf learners to tertiary education.
7. Improved awareness, sensitivity and response by County and National governments on issues affecting Deaf women and girls under Devolution.
8. Enhanced access by Deaf women and girls to civil and criminal justice system including legal aid.
9. Enabling environment for inclusion and effective participation by Deaf women in public life.
10. FEDWEN-K's institutional capacity strengthened and healthy financial and skilled human resource base maintained

Thematic areas are listed as;

1. Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Services.
2. Gender Based Violence.
3. Socioeconomic empowerment
4. Inclusive governance.

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FEDWEN currently has 3 projects being implemented with support from funding partners listed below;

1. Black Feminist Fund for the project SHE RISES.
2. Hivos for the project Comprehensive Sexual Reproductive Health Rights Education and Services for Deaf Adolescents.
3. AWDF for the project I Know, I Decide.

In line with our strategic plan, we have been implementing the above listed project to achieve the key results areas.

1) SHE RISES.

She Rises targets vulnerable Deaf women and girls such as single mothers, those without formal education, and institutional development.

Activities implemented under SHE RISES.

- A. Institutional development.
- Onboarding of new staff.
 - Purchasing of office equipment such as cameras for communications department, furniture.
 - Review of policy documents.
 - Website revamp.
- B. Sexual Reproductive Health Rights and Services.
- Access to justice;
 - Deaf mainstreaming training for probation officers at Makadara law courts.
 - Support for survivors of violence;
Annette Saka, who was accused of sexual violation of a minor. We were able to support her legal team; lawyer and probation officer to reduce her sentence from the 20 years as per the Kenyan law to 5 years.

Angel Mideva a survivor of SGBV who has cerebral palsy and speech impairment. Angel is a sign language user.

We are currently actively working on the case of Nyangoma school for the Deaf to support access to justice for the Deaf learners. Mary Akinyi is currently with child for the school principal and has filed a case with the police.

2) COMPREHENSIVE SEXUAL REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH RIGHTS EDUCATION AND SERVICES FOR DEAF ADOLESCENTS.

The targeted beneficiary is Deaf adolescents/young people aged 13-25-years-old in Murang'a school for the Deaf and Isinya school for the Deaf as well as youth out of school in Nairobi county. The aim of the project is to strengthen the capacity of Deaf adolescents and young people to lead empowered and healthy lives by addressing significant gaps in their access to comprehensive sexual reproductive health rights education and services.

Activities implemented under CSRHR education and services for Deaf adolescents.

- A. Establishment of IKID clubs in Murang'a school for the Deaf, Isinya school for the Deaf and youth out of school.
- B. Development of IEC materials; IKID facilitator manual and user guide manual, brochures and pamphlets.
- C. Stakeholder engagement; Stakeholder engagement was organized bringing together key actors in ASRHR including the ministries of Health and Education, the County

Government of Nairobi, Deaf activists, a representative of parents of Deaf Children, as well as a representative teacher from a school for the Deaf. 2 Deaf youth, both IKIDs, participated in the stakeholder engagement sharing the position of Deaf adolescents and young people.

- D. Parent engagement; Parents are informed of the communication needs and the sexual reproductive health risks and needs of their children, and are in a better position to support access to SRHR information and resources for Deaf adolescents and young people. Parents are also empowered with communication skills to support inclusion at home, strengthening support systems for Deaf adolescents.

3) I Know, I Decide. (IKID)

The targeted beneficiary is Deaf adolescents/young people aged 13-25-years-old Machakos school for the Deaf, Reverend Muhoro school for the Deaf, Kambui school for the Deaf and Ziwani school for the Deaf.

The main aim is to strengthen the capacity of Deaf adolescents to make informed choices on their sexual reproductive health by increasing access to sexual reproductive health rights information.

Activities implemented under IKID.

- A. Establishment of IKID clubs in Machakos school for the Deaf, Reverend Muhoro school for the Deaf, Kambui school for the Deaf and Ziwani school for the Deaf.
- B. Development of IEC materials; IKID facilitator manual and user guide manual, brochures and pamphlets.
- C. IKIDS club's day; we invited all IKID clubs to Isinya school for the Deaf to celebrate Day of the African child on 15th June 2024.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES.

- I. Climate change training to strengthen the capacities of Deaf communities.
- II. Organization development training to strengthen internal systems and policies.
- III. Stakeholder engagement on ASRHR.

THANK YOU.