

WEBINAR

Accelerating restoration action through youth and women

DATE: 26 OCTOBER

TIME: 10:00AM-12:00PM



WELCOMING REMARKS



Welcoming Remarks And Introductions

Ms. Faith Kilonzo(Spice
Warriors/ Maundu Maseo



SESSION I. Women Engagement





Speakers

Ms. Theresa Aoko Otieno,
Co-Founder, Angaza Siaya Initiative /
Kenya Youth in Forestry

Ms. Cassandra Claire Mwanza,
Assistant Marketing Officer, Effective
IPM Association

OCTOBER 26-2022

Accelerating Restoration Action Through Women

Theresa Aoko Otieno, Co-Founder, Angaza
Siaya Initiative/Kenya Youth in Forestry



Introduction

- CBO registered in 2018
- Siaya, Homabay, Kisumu
- Community based approaches to sustainable management of natural resources
- Women, youth & children
- Tree growing, clean ups, capacity building



Restoration Activities

- Tree growing : resource efficiency for climate change resilience towards sustainable livelihoods
 - Providing training on strategies and skills for better natural resource management
 - Enhancing the capacity of the community on the correct agricultural practices
 - Developing training materials on environment, biodiversity, CSA
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Approach Used

- Using cooperative, interactive and consultative methods to allow active participation, practice & consensus building
- Ensuring gender sensitivity and provision of age-related information on conservation related matters
- Providing opportunities to engage in better resource management in schools & community
- Enlisting broad based community support
- Mobilizing resources to support the organization, environmental & agricultural clubs



Approach Used



Model Used for Engagement

- Participatory action oriented situational analysis as the basis for project design
- Training and skill development for staff and volunteer facilitators
- Operate in facilitative, collaborative, supportive and synergistic capacity
- Formation of ANGAZA Agriculture and environmental Clubs in schools and villages



Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- Most elderly women are vulnerable (widowed & taking care of orphans)
- Experience land ownership challenges
- Not involved in environmental decision making
- Economic Challenges

Opportunities

- Involvement in tree nurseries business
- Energy saving jikos technology
- Trust us to network with relevant authorities
- Commitment towards climate mitigation interventions



Lessons learned

- Support for funding in tree nurseries establishment as an IGA
 - Collaborative & participatory approaches towards decision making
 - Group savings enable women groups to flourish in environmental actions
 - Certain interventions while environment friendly are expensive i.e Solar Lamps
 - Minimal interventions from county governments further marginalize them
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Lessons learned



Key Messages

- Lobby for involvement of elderly women in environmental governance i.e. county & community levels
- Advocate for funding support for tree nurseries
- Build trustworthy relationships with them
- More reliable in tree growing compared to male counterparts
- Consider other interventions (i.e. economic empowerment) to complement restoration efforts



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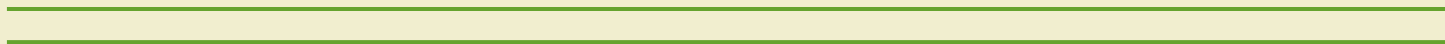
Accelerating restoration action through youth & women

Cassandra Claire Mwanza
Assistant Marketing Officer
Effective IPM Association



INTRODUCTION: EFFECTIVE IPM ASSOCIATION

- A research and capacity development membership organization promoting Integrated Pest Management and other sustainable development interventions to improve livelihoods by linking local challenges to global solutions



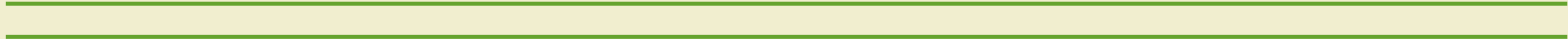
Restoration Activities

- Planting of fruit trees.
 - Encouraging farmers to integrate fruit trees into their farms to enable improvement of livelihoods and conservation of the environment.
- Training and capacity building of rural smallholder farmers.
 - Demonstration farm in Ngegu, Kiambu county on sustainable agriculture practices i.e organic farming, IPM and soil health & management.



Approach Used

- On-farm/adaptive research approach.
 - involve farmers in the process by understanding their problems, conducting trials of proposed remedies then disseminating this knowledge back to the farmers through training.



Model Used for Engagement

- Use of Participatory and Collaborative models to engage with the farmers.
 - The farmers themselves are aware of the issues affecting their development and in most cases have provided the answers to address these issues effectively.
 - Through collaboration, restoration efforts become long-term as the beneficiaries have a sense of ownership of the entire process.
 - Collaborative research with other organizations has enabled us to have a far-reaching impact as well.
 - We have collaborated with JKUAT and GBIACK among others.
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Challenges and Opportunities

- Our organization gifts fruit trees to needy farming communities which not only conserve the environment but also improves their livelihoods long term.
- Most activities are led by older women and men with little youth action. The youth represent a vibrant population with great potential in restoration action. We hope to attract more youth to this promising sector.
- There also exists knowledge gaps in the sector with little to no information sharing among stakeholders involved. This presents an opportunity to innovate and find means of bridging these gaps.



Lessons learned

We have learned that:

1. Working hand in hand with restoration actors in restoration as opposed to modeling solutions and imposing them to be more effective.
2. Collaborating with other restoration organizations enables the impacts to be far-reaching and have a wider scale.
3. Restoration action should be built on enforcing sustainability and self-reliance of the beneficiaries.



Key Messages

- Youth and women's engagement in restoration action should be boosted and supported.
- Restoration organizations should integrate partner organization to realize their goals.



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THANK YOU

Do you have any questions?

info@e-ipma.org | e-ipma.org



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SESSION 2. Children Engagement





Speakers

Mr. Joseph Kirindoh, Director, Africa Goal Organization

Mr. Tobias Odhacha, Camp Manager, Wildlife Direct

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SPORTS FOR RESTORATION EDUCATION

Joseph Kirindoh, Director, Africa Goal Organization



Introduction

- Africa Goal Organization (AGO) is a Non profit Organization operating in Kenya
- Aim: providing development opportunities to marginalized communities by promoting climate change actions and adaption, health, education, livelihood and social responsibility through sports.
- Started in 2013 as a ladies soccer team and later changed its name to Africa Sports Organization and registered in 2020 as Africa Goal Organization.

Insert a Picture



Restoration Activities

- **Green army environmental club** (*environment educative games, tree planting, community clean ups, and fun*)
- **Environment cup** (*competitive games, environment education, awareness creation, and tree planting*)

● Photo



Approach Used

- **The need-based approach-***It focuses on identifying needs in a deteriorating community and creating external inputs to meet those needs*
 - **The problem solving approach-***focuses on different methods approaches that can be used in creating different solution for the problems that are faced by communities*
 - **Participatory approach-***focuses on ensuring that people are educated and encouraged to participate in the process*
 - **Welfare approach-***focus on dealing with working communities to build their capacity that improves their wellbeing, happiness and eventually their prosperity*
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Model Used for Engagement

- **Engaged Research-** *Research that directly benefits the community by clarifying the causes of a community challenge*
 - **Community Organizing-** *Projects that bring people together with the goal of solving a community issue.*
 - **Community Education-** *Projects that provides instructional services or curricula, or serves to educate the public about a social issue*
 - **Institutional Engagement-** *involving relevant institutions*
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Challenges and Opportunities

- Access to public schools
 - Utilization of road reserves and along railway lines
 - Public open spaces where kids can access during holidays and conduct training (no spaces)
 - Availability of resources (human and money)
 - Public notion on sports (community still have negative mentality on sports)-Little or no support from professional players to motivate and inspire action among the young generation
 - IEC materials (age appropriate)
 - Expand to other Clubs and schools (private and public) in the country.
 - Explore the row talent among the children available within the communities
 - Children with special needs are not being involved in the activities
 - Sport and culture not yet embraced as an economic venture to grow and develop our communities
 - Federations need to develop structures that can help in addressing societal issues e.g environment
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Lessons learned

- Community participation and stakeholders involvement is key in resource mobilization for shared social corporate responsibility
 - Community Based organizations have a far reaching networks in creating access to education and promotion of environmental restoration
 - Map stakeholders to build diversity
 - Interested community representatives to participate in the project;
 - Leadership for the group (eventually the coordinator) with good communication skills;
 - The stakeholders to support community engagement.
 - Early involvement of communities in study design (development of protocols and its instruments, such as implementation, etc.);
 - Donors should encourage and support community representation within policy-making fora in order to enable best participatory practice and contribution to the significant decisions;
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Lessons learned

- Emphasis on training and education of Community members on their roles;
 - Enable space for regular information and interaction with stakeholders allowing understanding of the program
 - Reference materials on implementation of community engagement, activities and training manuals should be available in local languages. It will foster the meaningful community engagement and will create a better understanding
 - Secure funding: Although there is an expectation of community engagement being conducted at no cost or based principally on volunteer work, community engagement cannot take place without proper funding.
 - The training and constant education of community representatives is vital to retain members and recruit new ones.
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Key Messages

- Sports is the most natural way of engagement that is yet to be exploited, with purposeful and intentional involvement of children it thus becomes the most powerful tool for transformation[underutilized strategy].
- No strategy no future. Restoration through the young generation is the only way forward for sustainability
- Sports is a contributor to environment degradation ie people clearing bushes to set up a field.



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THANK YOU

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Wildlife Warriors Kids Restoring Nature Challenge

Tobias Odhacha,
Camp Manager,
WildlifeDirect.

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Mission

Connecting people to their wildlife and nature and inspiring them to treasure it and act conserve it.

Vision

Changing hearts, minds and laws to ensure Africa's critical species endure forever.



Wildlife Warriors Kids Clubs



EMPOWERING CHILDREN TO BE ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDS.

Why Children...



- Open
 - Curious
 - Innocent
 - Children lack agency or support to make a difference.
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Kids Restoring Nature Challenge

Inkoisuk Primary school – Pollinator garden



Itilal Primary School Afforestation Project



Challenges and opportunities

Challenges

- Guiding teachers on micro grant management
 - School financial management systems.
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Lessons learned

- Children participation from idea generation to project implementation promotes ownership.
- Micro-grants boosts response to local environmental challenges.



Lessons learned



- Share. Reciprocating knowledge learnt at home.
- Sustainability and ownership.

Key Message

“

Every child can
make a difference
for nature.

”

THANK YOU



WILDLIFE DIRECT

Do you have any questions?

tobias@wildlifedirect.org



Q&A

SESSION 3. Youth Engagement





Speakers

Ms. Laura Mukhwana, Regreening
Africa Programme,
CIFOR-ICRAF

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Insights from Regreening Africa Programme on Youth Engagement

Laura Mukhwana, CIFOR-ICRAF



Introduction

- Regreening Africa is an ambitious five-year programme that seeks to reverse land degradation among 500,000 households, and across one million hectares of land in eight countries in sub-Saharan Africa
- Kenya, Ethiopia, Ghana, Mali, Senegal, Niger, Somalia, and Rwanda



Youth Engagement Activities in Regreening Africa

The Regreening Africa programme has engaged youth across various initiatives in all the eight programme countries, through activities such as:



Building capacity for technology use and monitoring via the Regreening Africa App



Learning exchanges and virtual workshops



Restoration and value chain interventions



Nursery establishment and management



Supporting existing youth groups to promote land restoration



Using sports (namely soccer) to promote Farmer Managed Natural Regeneration (FMNR) and tree planting



Lesein Mutunkei, founder of Trees for Goals combines his passion for the environment and football to share knowledge in schools on tree growing and environmental stewardship.



Approaches used

- Organizing sports tournaments and sponsoring the tournaments (such as through branded t-shirts of the Regreening Africa project, footballs etc.)
 - Organizing art exhibition events, talent shows to showcase the work done by the youth (recycled materials, drawings, poetry, dance, music etc.)
 - Organizing field trips/ exchange visits for the youth (lead youth farmers) to see what restoration activities are carried out by youths in different parts of the country.
 - Partnering with community training experts, religious leaders etc. to educate communities on the importance of land access and use by youths.
 - Capacity building through trainings and information provision on tree nursery management.
 - Sharing of tree planting manuals with the pupils as well as training them on tree planting and its importance in dealing with climate change.
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Models for Engagement

- School cypress woodlot establishment - youth led CBO in Elgeyo Marakwet.
- School fruit tree establishment for school environmental clubs who earn an income by selling the fruits and improve their nutrition.
- Establishment of tree classrooms in schools (Homabay and Migori) where students learn under the trees planted by the project.
- Establishment of woodlots for fuelwood in schools.
- Introducing energy saving initiatives such as jikos in schools.
- Supporting soccer tournaments where youth are sensitized on environmental conservation (CFAs donate trees instead of giving the winning team trophies and certificates).
- Trees for Goals school tree planting initiative in Nairobi.



Challenges and Opportunities

Challenges

- The **extensive engagement of the youth** in various initiatives relating to climate change and the environment is **hardly mentioned in mainstream media**.
- Land tenure rights and issues
- Socio-cultural issues.

Opportunities

- Youth engagement in restoration and value chain activities are being explored as there are opportunities for income creation in nursery establishment activities for example.
 - The sustainability of many projects especially restoration and greening projects highly depends on innovative ideas that enable the project to stay relevant and adapt with the changing times. Youth can be drivers of innovation.
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Lessons learned

- In order to overcome the existing barriers to catalyzing energy , knowledge and vibrancy of the youth for greater restoration outcome, we need to ensure that restoration initiatives enhance and embrace:
 - Meaningful partnerships between the youth and state, local, national and global partners.
 - Intentional youth engagement in the project teams
 - Recognition of youth as community champions
 - Access to knowledge and technology
 - Income-generating restoration initiatives



Key Messages

- Effective promotion of youth in decision-making policies requires putting in place policies that support their participation.
 - Youth need to be empowered to understand planning processes and policy documents.
 - It is vital to introduce alternative , nature based livelihood opportunities such as agribusiness, ecotourism, fish farming, beekeeping etc.
 - Ensure equal benefit sharing mechanisms from restoration.
 - Land tenure system must be strengthened to enhance access and ownership by women and youth.
 - Young people should capitalize on social media to document their work and showcase their success , in order to increase visibility and attract funding.
 - Financing including bank loans, must be adjusted to suit the needs and constraints of women and youth
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- regreeningafrica.org
- twitter.com/RegreenAfrica
- www.facebook.com/RegreenAfrica





Q&A

VOTE OF THANKS AND CLOSING REMARKS

