

Elimu Yetu Coalition

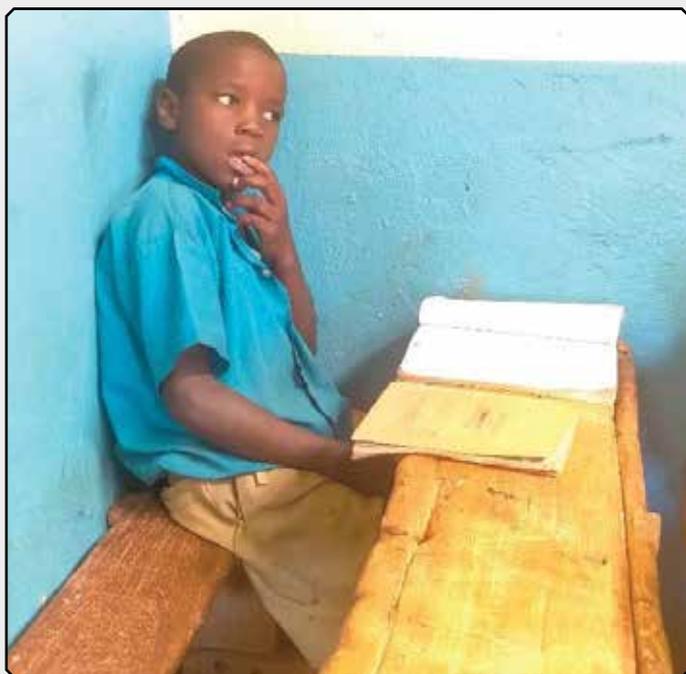
2021 NEWSLETTER



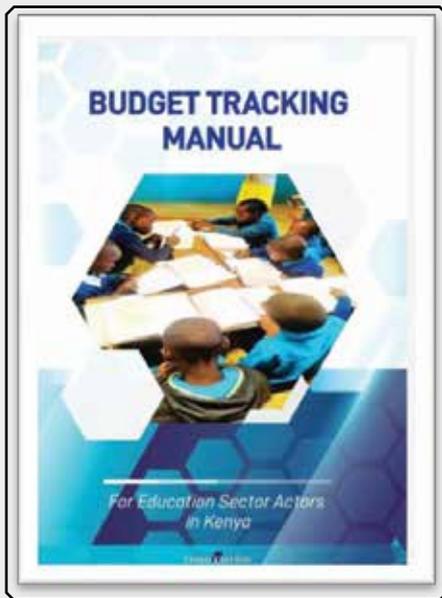
December 2021

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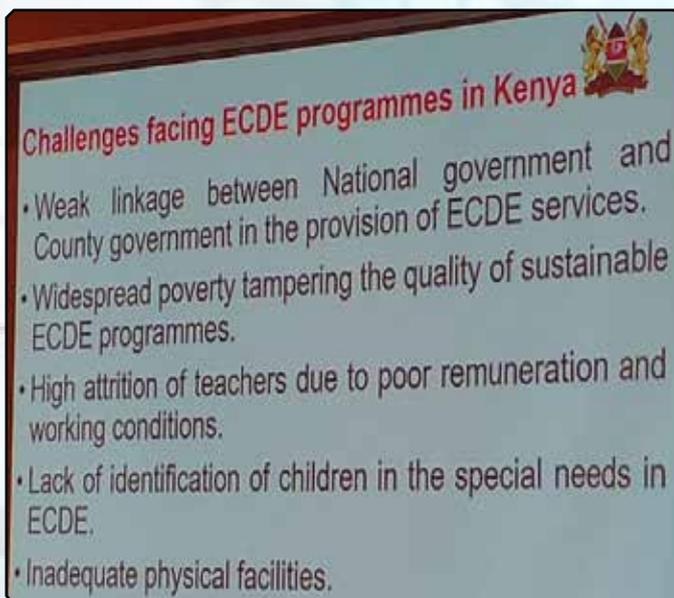
1. CAPACITY BUILDING OF COUNTY EDUCATION NETWORKS



County Education Networks benefited from different capacity building initiatives this year. The first training was held in January in partnership with the East African Center for Human Rights (EACHRIGHTS). The training focused on Leadership and Governance, Advocacy, Financial Management and Resource Mobilization. Participants were drawn from Mandera, Kilifi, Taita Taveta, Makueni, Laikipia, Bungoma and Homa Bay Counties.

The second training was on budget tracking following a review of the Budget tracking manual. It was conducted in Tana River, Busia and Makueni Counties targeting civil Society Organizations working in education.

2. ENGAGEMENT WITH POLICY MAKERS



EYC engaged with different policy makers this year. This include engagement meeting with the Senate Standing Committee on Education to contribute to the Early Childhood Education enquiry report in June 2021. The consolidated information from the county dialogue forums greatly informed the policy forum and clear plans of action for follow up was agreed upon. The Committee also participated in the policy forum on GPE replenishment.

Engagement with the ministry of education was on various policy issues including; Joint Sector review of the National Education Sector Strategic plan 2018-2022, development of the Guidance and Counselling Policy, Monitoring of the PRIEDE and COVID-19 projects, GPE replenishment campaign, National Civil Society conference on Education for All and the Global Action Week for Education which focused on More and Better Financing.

3. CAMPAIGN INITIATIVES

A. Global Action Week for Education campaign

The Global Action Week for Education (GAWE) 2021 took place **from 26th to 30th April 2021** under the theme **More and Better Financing for Education**. The campaign was aligned with the policy framing of the One Billion Voices for Education. Activities in Kenya were organized by a technical committee comprising of 12 organizations. The organizations include; EYC, Plan International, Transparency International, Action Aid, EACHRights, APHRC, FAWE Kenya, World Vision, Save the Children, SOS Children's Village, We World and VSO Kenya. Successful activities were as follows;



- Development of a policy brief on More and Better financing (refer to Annex 1).
- Children Forums were organised in partnership with World Vision across different Counties. The secretariat coordinated children forum in Kericho, Bungoma and Nyandarua Counties in collaboration with County Education Networks.
- Social media campaign was held on 29th April 2021 through tweet chat.
- A newspaper pull-out summarising key messages of the campaign was in Nation Newspaper courtesy of VSO Kenya.
- EYC and partners also participated in a regional policy dialogue organized by ANCEFA and the High-Level Event and Coalition Kick-Off Meeting organized by USAID.

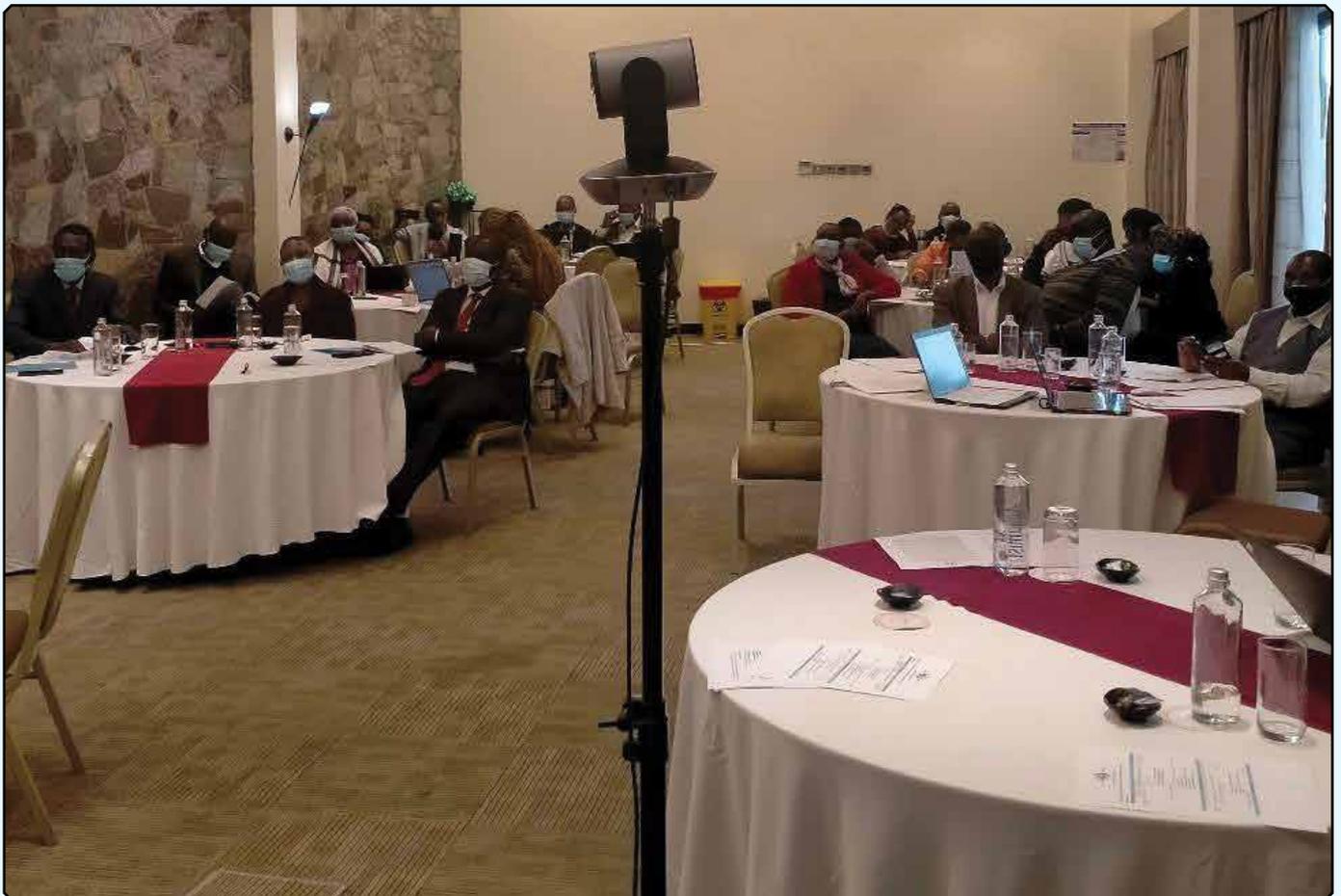
B. GPE replenishment campaign

The 2021 Global Education Summit was co-hosted by the President of Kenya, Uhuru Kenyatta, and the UK Prime Minister, Boris Johnson and aimed at raising at least \$5 billion over 5 years along with commitments from GPE partner countries on domestic financing for education. The financing helps countries transform education systems for more than 1 billion girls and boys in up to 90 countries and territories around the world. It took place in July 28 and 29, 2021. Activities for the GPE replenishment campaign were coordinated by EYC through a technical committee formed during GAWE. Accomplished activities during the campaign include;

Development of TV features using messages, images and videos provided by some committee members with the support from VSO Kenya. The features were aired on Nation TV.

the features were aired in the morning, midday, evening and at night. EYC shared a schedule to all members to enable them monitor the features as per the schedule.

Development of a civil society support statement on GPE replenishment. The support statement was one of the main products developed by the Civil society organizations in Kenya to demonstrate their support for the Heads of state call to action and Kenya's commitments on domestic financing for education ahead of the global education summit.

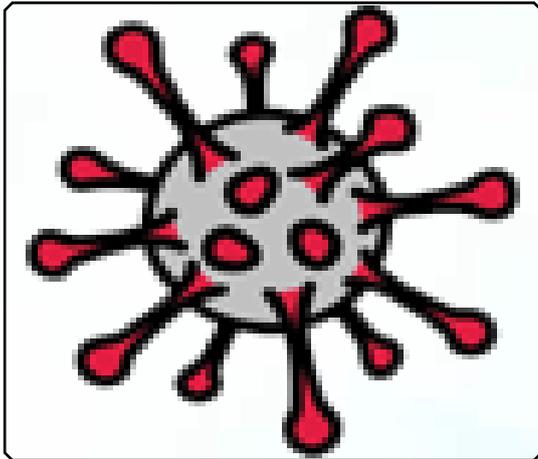


A policy forum on Education Financing was held on 22nd July 2021 as a side event to the 2021 GPE replenishment summit. The event was organised by the Civil Society Organizations in Kenya led by EYC and brought together 48 organizations representing policy makers, teachers' unions, media representatives and civil society organizations.

A talk show involving children was conducted on NTV on 28th July 2021 in collaboration with Plan International and WVK. The theme of the talk show was; *Addressing barriers to quality education in Kenya.*

A joint meeting between the MoE and the technical committee was held on 18th June 2021. The meeting enabled both the technical committee and MoE to share planned activities and achieved milestones. EYC also participated in a meeting by MoE on 22nd June 2021 where the CS - Education released a policy statement on GPE replenishment. Together with the statement, the ministry also released campaign videos for promoting the event.

4. COVID -19 AND EDUCATION IN KENYA



The education sector has received its equal share of the impact of COVID-19 pandemic. The response committee established by the Cabinet Secretary is currently inactive with the chairperson having been appointed as a CAS Education Most teachers have been vaccinated following a directive by the Teachers Service Commission that all teachers must get the COVID-19 vaccine. However, schools have not received any financial support from the Ministry of Education towards prevention and control of COVID-19 Pandemic.

5. COUNTY DIALOGUE FORUMS

Dialogue forums on education were organized in ten (10) counties to discuss access to inclusive and equitable quality basic education in selected counties and come up with clear actions for addressing the identified gaps. The counties that benefited from this initiative include; Busia, Bungoma, Embu, Nyeri, West Pokot, Nandi, Kitui, Garissa, Kwale and Migori.



6. SUBNATIONAL LEARNING FORUMS

Subnational learning forums are organized learning platform that bring together civil society organizations working in education advocacy and campaign at sub national level and are tuned towards specific regional needs to enhance proposed solutions to interventions succeeding in addressing identified needs of the people including marginalized groups. These forums are utilized to engage around education policies and programmes and de-

velop regional specific plans of actions.

This year, the subnational learning forums were held in Nyanza, Western, Coast and North Eastern regions where members identified strategies for strengthening regional advocacy initiatives. Coast region for example, identified Lamu county as the weakest link in advocacy in the region and came up with measures of strengthening the County Education Network.

7. CIVIL SOCIETY CONFERENCE ON EDUCATION FOR ALL



The 11th Civil Society Conference on Education for all was organized by EYC in partnership seven organizations. The theme of the conference was; **'Promoting Quality, Equity and Inclusion in the provision of Basic Education in Kenya'**.

The conference was held at two levels; sub-national and national levels. This approach was adopted because of the effectiveness of the conference last year and also in an attempt to

address challenges that come with COVID-19 pandemic.

Conference participants were drawn from Civil Society Organizations, Teacher Unions, School Boards of Management, Kenya Primary School Heads Association, County Education Network (CENs) representation, Ministry of Education representatives, Religious leaders, Parents Association and Media representatives.



8. MONITORING PRIMARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT (PRIEDE), SECONDARY EDUCATION QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SEQIP) AND COVID-19 PROJECTS



EYC participated in the closing support mission of PRIEDE and COVID-19 projects with an aim of establishing their impact and sustainability given that the projects have come to an end.

EYC also conducted independent monitoring of PRIEDE and SEQIP projects in Marsabit County where insecurity has seriously hindered access to quality education. Despite government investment in both primary and secondary education, the county faces serious shortage of electricity, water, teachers and facilities.

9. REGIONAL LEARNING FORUMS



Four EYC staff and two board members benefited from different learning initiatives organized by EoL this year including trainings. The trainings include; Advocacy and campaigns; Strategic Planning and Resource Mobilization training; Project Planning and management; Human Rights Base Approach and Gender Inclusion; Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning; and Financial management, Strategic management.

10. CIVIL SOCIETY WORKSHOP ON THE STATE OF EDUCATION IN KENYA

The Civil Society workshop on the state of education in Kenya is an initiative started by Elimu Yetu Coalition (EYC) in 2020 to enable Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) discuss and present their perspective on the state of basic education in Kenya. The workshop is anchored on the provision of the Basic Edu-

cation Act on the function of the National Education Board (NEB) to generate and cause to be published an annual report on the state of education and service delivery in the country. However, in the absence of the NEB this function is hampered.

11. MEDIA ENGAGEMENT



Media continues to be one of the main strategies that EYC applies in advocacy. This year, EYC applied both mainstream and social media in different campaign and advocacy initiatives across the year. Some of this include press conferences, media appearance and interviews. The widely used social media platform this year was twitter.

12. PARTNERSHIP AND NETWORKING

Partnership and networking was one of the most effective strategies that made EYC realize most of its achievements in 2021. One such partnership was with the government during the development of the GPE partnership compact with the government of Kenya for which EYC is a signatory. EYC also worked in partnership with other organizations to achieve its set objectives. Successful partnerships were realized from VSO Kenya, World Vision, Plan International, Sight Savers, African Population and Health Research Centre (APHRC), Transparency International, Trace Kenya, Moving The Goalposts, International Aids Services Kenya, Kesho Kenya and Action Aid Kenya.

Resources from the partners supported different activities including the Global Action Week for Education campaign, GPE replenishment campaigns and the Civil Society Conference on Education for All.



13. EYC SPECIAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

One of the resolutions of the 2020 General Assembly was to have a Special General Assembly meeting convened in 2021 for members to discuss changes to the EYC constitution. The Special General Assembly meeting was held in November 2021 where constitutional changes were made.

POLICY BRIEF

April 2021

MORE AND BETTER FINANCING FOR EDUCATION



One Billion Voices for Education Campaign ABOUT GLOBAL CAMPAIGN FOR EDUCATION

Global Action for Education is an annual campaign organized by the Global Campaign for Education (GCE) in support of the human right to quality, inclusive, universal education. This year, the theme for GAWE is *More and Better Financing for Education*. The campaign is aligned with the policy framing of the One Billion Voices for Education campaign and will take place for 26th to 30th April 2021.

SUMMARY OF KEY ASKS AND MESSAGES

1. Build the capacity of school structures to contribute to the affairs of the schools especially in relation to utilisation of public resources
2. Remit funds including funds for Primary school education in time to facilitate effective service delivery and smooth running of institutions
3. Review the budgetary processes at schools to include a standardised needs assessment of public institutions
4. Adequately fund the Ministry of Education to address emerging issues brought about by COVID-19 and the changing state of economy. Additionally, the capacitation grants to schools should be enhanced to reflect inflation and the state of economy
5. Invest in Education in Emergencies (E.I.E) to address challenges such as climate change emerging barriers to children accessing quality education and the prevention of exacerbating pre-existing barriers especially touching on women and children in Arid and Semi-Arid areas
6. Invest in ECDE to address challenges of access, equity and quality of pre-primary education
7. Provide comprehensive guidelines for planning and budgeting for equitable quality pre-primary education
8. A reflection call for the Ministry of Education, the National Treasury and County Government on effective planning and budgeting for pre-primary education
9. Ministry of Education to hasten the process of integrating ECDE data in the National Education and management information systems and use the same as a basis for setting annual targets for pre-primary education nationally
10. Set targets, within education plans that adequately address the needs of the sector
11. Meaningfully engage children in decision making processes in schools including on matters of school planning, budgeting, monitoring and reporting

12. Address financial barriers that prevent girls from going to school, by increasing capitation grants to schools
13. Address the high prevalence of Sexual Gender based violence that has contributed to dropouts of 24% of out of school girls(OOSG)
14. Fast track the development of Guiding and counselling policy to address issues around psychological and mental illness in schools
15. Increase budgetary allocation towards development to establish more public schools especially in urban informal settlements.
16. Expand existing facilities and personnel in public primary schools to enable them to effectively accommodate more pupils and to enhance free quality basic education.
17. Enhance the COVID-19 related interventions in schools including those aimed at improving the safety of children in schools, promoting equity and inclusion for girls and children with disabilities and addressing mental health issues.
18. Build accountable and transparent partnerships with donors such as GPE to boost Financing in Education

PHOTO GALLERY



Section of learners at Eregi primary school



Fire place at Eregi special school for HI



Participants during Civil Society conference on education for all in Western region



Section of participants during training by EOL on Strategic Planning in Arusha, Tanzania



Section of participants during Civil Society conference on education for all in Rift Valley region



Section of participants during EoL project review meeting in Daresalam, Tanzania



Elimu Yetu Coalition

Hill Side Apartments, 2nd Flr, Ragati Road, Off Haille Sellasie Avenue,
P.O. Box 24621-00100 Nairobi, Kenya.
Tel: +254-020 2715072/2446669
Cell: +254-723 503420
website: www.elimuyetu.net