May 2020 Update: What we have lost and What we have gained in the Covid-19 crisis

Dear friends and partners,

Just like many other countries around the world, Kenya is deeply impacted by the current coronavirus disease crisis. Apart from threats of daily increasing numbers of new infections and more so the worrying trends in Kibra slums in Nairobi, it is estimated that
more than 5 millions people have lost their jobs due to restricted movements, lockdowns, closure of all public and private learning institutions, and curfew. As a result, a big population is vulnerable as many families goes hungry without food, and there is increasing cases of sexual, domestic/intimate partner violence.

Friends, I want to let you know what our organization have lost as a result of this pandemic, and what we have gained too. In our 2020/21 projection and plan just before the COVID-19 crisis, IFAGE’s strategic plan included the following:

**Locally**

a) To pilot Transforming Masculinities (TM) model of Tearfund’s faith based community mobilization approach/tool on Sexual and Gender Based Violence with communities living in Bondo and Rarieda Sub Counties, which was to benefit approximately 800,000 population, (and to be scaled up in other regions in the country later).

b) To work with local women groups, community youths groups, and schools/students aged between 13-21 years on; “Improved Health & Gender Responsive Climate Action Education”. We already identified 47 local public schools for engagement.

**Internationally**

a) To work with previous conference attendees and faith leaders from; Uganda, Rwanda and Tanzania, in order to create local chapters in those respective countries for continued dialogue and conversation on “Faith, Peace and Gender Reconciliation”. According to our strategic plan, these chapters are also to be points on entry for future scale-up of programs and activities on gender justice and women empowerment across Sub Saharan Africa.

b) To plan, organize and host 2021 International/Pan African conference in Juba, South Sudan on “Faith, Peace and Gender Reconciliation” with over 200 key faith and political leaders, researchers, community influencers, development partners, among others from around the region and globally
But due to the COVID-19 threat and crisis, we put on hold all these plans as we monitor situation and trends. Please, join us in prayer and hope for the world to get rid of this crisis and gain back normalcy.

However, through your prayers and support, all is not lost. We have gained a lot and saved more lives by helping local communities in Kenya adapt to new health regulations in order to curb the spread of the virus. Since March, we have trained clergy/church leaders, local leaders, chiefs, and community health volunteers.

Currently, we are mainly distributing basic food items to the hungry and starving families, targeting 50 physically disabled women headed households, 18 old and retired clergy, and 180 vulnerable families of women with young children. We are also responding to increasing cases of sexual and domestic violence. In May 2020, we have responded to 25 cases of domestic and sexual violence. We are grateful to our partners and friends. Your gifts and donations are saving lives. Thank you so much.

For us to reach out to more disadvantaged groups and families in deep need in the villages with basic food package, we need your support. We kindly request you to donate and help us with more food that we can reach out to more families, and to support more women and girls going through sexual, domestic and gender based violence.

Donate Now

Thank you for your Support!

Sincerely,
Rev. Domnic Misolo
Executive Director

Visit our [website](#) for more updates.