

2016

Annual Report

Women Participation in Politics:
“Gender Inclusivity and Equality”



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LIST OF ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

FIDA K	Federation of Women Lawyers Kenya
IJS	Informal Justice Systems
TWG	Technical Working Group
CSOs	Civil Society Organization
EACC	Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission
CECs	County Executive Committees
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
LASP	Legal Assistance Scheme Partnership
ERT	Equal Rights Trust
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UNICEF	United Nations Children & Emergency Fund
FGD	Focus Group Discussions
FGM	Female Genital Mutilation
NGEC	National Gender & Equality Commission
CCAFS	Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security
VAWG	Violence Against Women and Girls
CEFM	Child Early Forced Marriage
WRF	Women Rights Forum



Acknowledgements

This annual report documents the strategies adopted by FIDA Kenya and the achievements made in realization of the organization's objectives. We wish to acknowledge the tremendous support accorded to us by our development partners in the implementation of our programmes and achievements of results towards FIDA Kenya's Vision.

We thank our partners in civil society and the government for the valuable working relationship we share. We are grateful for the continued trust and belief that these organizations have in FIDA Kenya's work.

The successes documented in this report are as a result of the commitment of FIDA Kenya Staff. I commend them for maintaining FIDA Kenya's status as the leading women rights organization in Kenya.

We also wish to thank FIDA Kenya members for the continued support to the secretariat. Special thanks go to FIDA Council comprising; the chairperson Josephine Wambua Mong'are, Vice Chairperson Grace Nyongesa, Secretary Faith Mony, Treasurer Nancy Ikinu, Coast representative Jacqueline Waihenya, Upcountry representative Roselyn Odede, Lily Musinga, Edna Arati and Betty Achieng. Their strategic leadership steers the organization to remain relevant in the fight for women's rights.

Finally, we applaud our clients and the women of Kenya for their courageous quest for justice. We hope this report represents their courage and encourages more women and men to be involved in the fight for equal opportunities for women.

Teresa Omondi- Adeitan,
Executive Director, FIDA Kenya.

Foreward

I am greatly honoured to serve as the Chairperson and be part of this wonderful organization. I feel proud to be associated with FIDA-Kenya's service to humanity, celebrating women and providing services to the needy in the country impacting positively on Kenyan women.

This report is titled "Women Participation In Politics: Gender Inclusivity and Equality" and it documents FIDA Kenya's work in improving the status of women in Kenya. The general tone of this report is one of optimism. Whereas there is an acknowledgement that we are not yet home in terms of realizing our mission which is a society that respects and upholds women's rights, we can confidently state that we have come this far.

At FIDA Kenya, we take cognizance that the work we do requires trust not only from the donors or members, but also the clients we serve as well as the general public. FIDA-Kenya is a household name because of the work we do and the trust we have earned from all quarters. At FIDA Kenya we are committed to advocating for policy and legislative reforms for the advancement of women's rights. We aim to be the leader in framing and informing women's rights discourse. This report highlights the key interventions by the organisation.

As our strategic plan draws to a close in 2017, we commissioned an evaluation of the strategic plan and programmes by a team of external evaluators so as to provide guidance as we move towards the development of a plan for the next planning period.

As we look ahead we are emboldened by our successes thus far and are certain that we shall continue to make positive contribution towards the progressive realization of women's rights in Kenya.

Mrs. Josephine Mong`are
Chairperson, FIDA Kenya



About FIDA-Kenya

The Federation of Women Lawyers – Kenya (FIDA-Kenya), is a non-profit, membership organisation consisting of over 1,174 women lawyers committed to increasing women’s access to justice in both formal and informal justice systems in Kenya.

FIDA Kenya was established in 1985 after the 3rd UN Conference on Women. The organisation’s vision is to have a society that respects and upholds women’s rights and the mission is to promote women’s individual and collective power to claim their rights in all sphere of life. FIDA Kenya has two core programmes:

- Access to Justice Programme which has diverse products modelled for women to access justice including; clients’ trained to represent themselves in court, Public interest litigation to set new jurisprudence, Pro bono lawyers scheme and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation and informal justice systems.
- Women and Governance programme - FIDA works to build the capacity of women, advocate and lobby for favourable laws and policies that are gender responsive and engage in strategic partnership at international, national, county and community levels. The programme aims at consolidating the gains of women in the Constitution and secure effective implementation of the same through different institutions.

FIDA Kenya has engaged extensively in policy advocacy, campaign against gender based violence and legislative reform and has made significant contribution towards the development and enactment of several gender responsive laws and policies. It currently enjoys special consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council and Observer status with the African Commission on Human and People’s Rights (ACHPR). To this end FIDA Kenya draws periodic complementary reports to the state reports on the status of women’s rights in Kenya.



1.0 ACCESS TO JUSTICE PROGRAM

1.1 Promoting access to justice through provision of legal aid services

FIDA Kenya Continued to provide legal aid services to women in Kenya towards the realization of their social, economic, political and cultural rights. Below is a table showing the cases received.

	NRB	KSM	MSA	TOTAL
Total client attendances	7,674	1,582	1,858	11,114
New client attendances	2,172	549	460	3,181
Subsequent clients (appointments)	2,996	1,032	1,398	5,426
Cases taken up and files opened	290	249	110	649
Cases filed in court	33	10	70	113
Cases concluded	27	30	28	85
Cases successfully concluded	37	3	21	61
Cases unsuccessfully concluded	23	2	8	33
Files audited	760	157	38	955
Files closed	0	1	5	6

STORIES OF CHANGE

A. H. M. v S. O. A., Children Court Case No 1618 of 2015

Our client, the defendant and a Somali Refugee living in a safe house came to our offices through the assistance of UNHCR and the Canadian High Commission. She was seeking assistance after her ex- husband the plaintiff, filed a Plaint on 18th December 2015 seeking orders that a permanent injunction be issued restraining our client from removing the minors from the jurisdiction of the Court; he also sought an order of full care and custody of the minors in question. We filed a defense and counterclaim on behalf of our client on the 5th of February 2016 seeking orders that;

- The plaintiffs case against our client be dismissed
 - The Court makes an order for legal and actual custody, control and care of the children in favour of our client.
 - The Court make a resident order in favor of our client
 - An order of maintenance of the children by the plaintiff.
- The matter was heard on the 6th September 2016. The Court delivered a Ruling awarding our client custody of the children. The plaintiff was allowed supervised access to the children and modalities to be agreed upon with the representatives of UNHCR

MOMBASA OFFICE

B. N. K. v S. W., Tononoka Children’s Case No. 350 of 2013

Our client visited our office seeking legal assistance with the maintenance of her minor child. We attempted mediation which was not successful. We therefore proceeded to prepare pleadings for filing. The Defendant though served with court pleadings declined to file his Defense and matter proceeded for formal proof.

The court granted an order for maintenance on 9th February 2014. The Defendant was duly served with court order but still did not comply to which a Notice to show cause was issued and an order to attach salary was issued.

We have since attached the Defendant’s salary to the tune of Kshs.17,647/60 per month. The Defendant has since cleared the decretal amount.

When the matter came up for hearing of the main suit on 24th November 2016 the parties decided to record consent in the following terms;

1. That both parties have joint legal custody with the plaintiff having actual physical custody and the Defendant to have unlimited access.
2. The Defendant to provide Kshs.4,000 per month for food.
3. The Defendant to cater for school fees and school related expenses for the minor.
4. The Plaintiff do cater for her own rent and utilities.
5. The Defendant to cater for the medical expenses of the minor when need arises.

KISUMU OFFICE

Busia Succ. Cause No. 86 of 1998

Our client sought legal services at the Kisumu office sometime in the year 2007 when her step brother had solely taken out grant of letters of admin intestate in the year 1999 following the death of her late father in the year 1993. Our advocates successfully moved court to join her as a co administrator of her late father's estate. Upon application for confirmation of grant sometime in the year 2010 our client's step brother/co administrator protested to the confirmation contesting the mode of distribution of the estate. There ensued back and forth applications in court thereafter and so much hostility between the parties

Finally on the 21st of September 2016 after a series of interventions and in the presence of both our client/the petitioner and her co administrator/the objector's counsels, our client, her co administrator and four other beneficiaries to the estate of her late father were able to enter into a consent on the mode of distribution of her deceased father's estate to our client and the four other beneficiaries' advantage after 18 years in court.

Client had this to say



"I began following up this case when I was still a young woman. Look at me now I have grown all white hair and the best part of it is that I am now going to be able to settle all this orphan children that were left under my care by my late parents, thank you so much FIDA Kenya."

Law Society of Kenya Legal Awareness Week



Mombasa office



Nairobi office



Men curious about FIDA



Kisumu office



1.2 Self Representation

One of FIDA Kenya`s legal aid strategies is to strengthen women`s capacity to represent themselves before courts of law. This programme aims at empowering a large number of women to claim their rights through the formal justice system. It dispels the myth that only advocates are able to speak in defense of one in court and that only those able to afford to hire advocates can access justice.

In 2016, FIDA Kenya trained **916** clients on self-representation. **293** cases were filed in court and **83** concluded which translates to **95%** success rate.

FIDA Kenya trains women on how to represent themselves in court and in the informal justice system. These trainings enable the women to understand their rights and the laws that protect these rights. Clients are trained on the court procedures and what is expected of them in the trial process. They are trained on how they should present their matters and the documents that they need to rely on, examination techniques as well as Court etiquette. The pre-trial briefings create an opportunity for the clients to seek clarity and discuss matters that may be peculiar to their individual cases.

We continue to post high success rates under this programme. In 2016, FIDA Kenya trained 916 clients on self-representation. 293 cases were filed in court and 83 concluded which translates to 95% success rate.

The program is indeed a blessing to many who would otherwise not be able to access the justice system due to scarcity of lawyers to represent them in court. The program has indeed empowered women, making them defenders of their own rights against perpetrators of the many injustices they face. In terms of sustainability, the multiplier effect of transferring knowledge from one woman to another can be enormous and should be encouraged at all costs.

The table below shows a summary of the total number of clients trained & cases concluded in 2016.

	NRB	KSM	MSA	TOTAL
Clients trained on self-representation (in groups)	300	134	120	554
Pleadings drafted for self-representing clients	150	95	147	392
Cases filed on behalf of self-representing clients	126	65	102	293
Process service effected	222	122	92	436
Cases concluded by self-representing clients	50	12	22	84
Cases successfully completed by self-rep. clients	20	6	11	97
Cases unsuccessfully completed by self-representing clients	0	0	01	01
Success rate				91%



Meru Complaint Handling Forum



Peer Counselors Training Forum Kajiado



Peer Counsel



Legal Awareness Week



Legal Awareness Week



Legal Awareness



Launch Of 16 Days Of Activism



Launch Of 16 Days Of Activism



Sam



Police officers training on GBV in Malindi



Launch Of 16 Days Of Activism



Legal Awareness



ors Kajiado



Peer Counselors



Practising mediation skills



s Week



Legal Awareness Week



Police officers training on GBV in Malindi



FIDA Kenya Staff and Council



FIDA Kenya Staff and Council



ss Week



Legal Awareness Week



Practising mediation skills

NAIROBI OFFICE

Our client, a Tanzanian national married to a Kenyan came to our offices to seek help after her estranged husband filed a suit against her on the 11th March 2013 seeking an order restraining our client from interfering with the education of the minor in question. The Plaintiff further sought custody, care & control of the minor. He also sought for costs of the suit. We filed a defense and replying affidavit on 20th June 2013. The matter was heard on the 18th February 2016.

Judgment was delivered on the 31st October 2016 by Honorable H.M. Mbatia were the following terms were entered:-

- Our client to retain actual custody, care & control of the minor but both parties to have joint custody
- The father to have access to the minor on the 2nd and 4th weekend of every month on Saturday or Sunday from 9am-5pm and the first half of all school holidays. Drop off and pick up to be agreed upon.
- The father to cater for the minor's school fees and school related expenses up to the highest level of education. In case of a transfer or upon the minor joining high school, the parties will discuss and agree on the school; failure to which either party is at liberty to apply to Court.
- Our client to provide food, shelter, medical care & home clothes.
- Our client to be restricted from leaving the country with the minor without the Minor's father consent (which consent is not to be unreasonably withheld) or leave of Court.
- Each party to bears its own costs and is at liberty to apply.

MOMBASA OFFICE

MOMBASA TCC NO. 24 OF 2015: K.M v P.M

Our client came to our offices in August 2014 seeking assistance with her children's maintenance. Upon the Defendant failing to respond to our invitation to mediation and demand letters, we proceeded to file suit for our client. The Client went through self-representation training and was advised on the court process and how to articulate her matter before the court. We assisted her in filing and process service of her documents. The court delivered judgment in her favour.

The court granted her prayers as follows:-

- a) Both parties shall have joint legal custody of the subject issue. The Plaintiff shall remain with the actual physical custody with the Defendant having unlimited access. The Defendant does cater for school fees of the minor at a school which shall be mutually agreed to by the parties while the Plaintiff shall cater for the school related expenses when the child gets to school going age.
- b) The plaintiff to cater for shelter and utility bills.
- c) The Defendant to contribute Kshs. 5,000 every month payable to the Plaintiff on or before the 5th day of every month.
- d) The defendant shall cater for medical expenses as and when the need may arise.

TONONOKA CHILDREN'S CASE NO. 267 OF 2016

COO v MW0

Our client sought legal services at the Mombasa office after being served with pleadings by her husband. Her estranged spouse sought to have custody of the minors of the marriage. Our client has been married under customary laws for 21 years before he threw her out of their matrimonial home and denied her access to the minors of the marriage. The youngest two children are still in lower primary.

The matter has been in court several times with parties filling applications and counter applications. The court granted our client temporary access before the main hearing of the matter but whenever she visited the minors the spouse would violently attack her.

The matter came up for hearing on 21st December 2016 and judgment delivered on 12th January 2017. The court granted orders as follows;

1. Both parties were granted legal custody with our client having actual custody and father to have unlimited access.
2. The Plaintiff/ Applicant to pay Kshs.35,000 per month as monthly maintenance for the minors.
3. The Plaintiff /Applicant to cater for the issues school fees whilst the Defendant caters for school related expenses.
4. The Defendant to continue staying at the matrimonial home with the minors as they plan to build a second home upcountry.

KISUMU OFFICE

Kisumu CMC children's case No. 7 of 2016

Our client - MLC

Our client, MLC, came to us in February 2016 seeking legal advice on how the father of her child would be compelled to provide maintenance for the child. She was trained how to represent herself in court and assisted in filing and service of the court process and represented herself well in court. The court delivered judgment in her favor. She was given legal custody of the child and the father was ordered to provide for the child as follows:-

15,300/= per month for maintenance;
5,000/= per annum for clothing and to provide for medical and school fees when and as they arise.

The client is grateful to FIDA and in her own words said:-



"It is like a dream that the Court has given these orders in my favor. For sure any person can get justice as long as they have the knowledge. Thank you FIDA for the knowledge, encouragement and assistance that has enabled me to achieve this."

1.3 Alternative Dispute Resolution

FIDA Kenya runs a **mediation programme** with a view of enhancing family unity and mutual respect. This is a voluntary process that allows parties in dispute to come up with their own tailor-made solutions to their differences. The mediation programme carries out bi-monthly mediation sessions for disputing parties at the FIDA Kenya offices in Nairobi, Kisumu and Mombasa.

Mediation sessions are conducted by trained in-house mediators and certified external mediators both men and women drawn from different professional backgrounds. In 2016, 1310 mediation invitations were sent out and 557 mediations were conducted. 185 of the mediations conducted were successful. In the period we engaged 19 professional mediators.

STORY OF CHANGE

Mombasa Office

Our client, Mariamu, not a real name in her early 30's and the husband in his early 30's got married and divorced under the Sharia Laws. They have had marital issues regarding maintenance of the minor of the marriage. The husband was not prepared to have the child and was therefore not willing to contribute towards her maintenance. After intense discussion during the mediation session, they have agreed that since the child is already here they need to both participate in providing for the minor. They both signed a parental responsibility agreement

1.4 Engagement with the Informal Justice System

FIDA Kenya recognizes the role played by informal justice systems (IJS) in delivering justice to local communities. FIDA Kenya has developed an informal justice systems strategy manual to ensure that the systems uphold the principles of human rights in their adjudication and work under legal provisions in the Constitution.

FIDA Kenya currently engages with over 20 informal justice systems (Council of Elders) across Kenyan communities. The organization enhances the capacity of the elders to understand laws that protect women rights, to apply the laws in their adjudication and also refer cases to relevant authorities. This intervention aims at bridging the gap between formal and traditional law to ensure that the two are consistent with each other and that these systems are gender responsive.

Synopsis of Some of the Cases Presided Over by Informal Justice Systems & Kisumu Achievements Or Actual Progress Towards The Results:

Engagement with IJS was in the following ways:

- In Western Region, FIDA Kenya held 5 review meetings for council of elders. These were the Bukhayo Council in Busia, Gusii Council, Kipsigis Council, Bukusu Council and Nyakach Council. 12 elders from each cluster engaged with FIDA. The elders resolve disputes through mediation, adjudicate on land and boundaries matters and solve conflict in the family.
- In Vihiga County, a 2 day training for elders drawn from the entire County on the use of Traditional Dispute Resolution Mechanism (TDRM) was also conducted. The elders were also sensitized on women rights issues as articulated in the Kenyan Constitution and equipped with skills on case follow up and case reporting. This training attracted a total of 35 elders with representatives from Nyumba kumi chair persons, church leaders, women group leaders and village elders.
- 20 representatives of council of elders drawn from the council of elders were sent to represent their clusters at the annual IJS conference held at Blue Hut hotel in Nairobi.

FIDA Kenya referred 12 cases to the elders of which 6 were successfully resolved, 4 are ongoing and 2 were unsuccessful. Both cases were on neglect of the 1st wives when the men marry other women.

In Nyakach, Kadiang'a area, a lady who had been evicted by her in-laws after she lost her husband was resettled after the intervention of the IJS from Nyakach.

In Bungoma, Kimilili area, an uncle who was selling land that belonged to two orphans was stopped after the intervention of the Bukusu council of elders.

In Busia, the Bukhayo council of elders intervened and helped a neglected first wife to have a house built for her and land registered in her name after FIDA KENYA Referred the case to the council of elders. A similar case was also handled in Nyakach by the Luo council of elders.

1.5 Psychosocial Support

Psychosocial support is offered to the clients to help them cope with the emotional traumas associated with the violations they have experienced and to enable them to appreciate and love themselves. FIDA Kenya has counselors who prepare the clients psychologically to be able to deal with legal complexities that come with their cases and to make informed decisions on action to take with regard to the violations they have faced. Counseling is implemented through individual counseling, couple counseling, family therapy and group therapy. These clients are thereafter incorporated into the organization's existing legal aid services to seek further solutions to their problems.

In 2016, 257 individual counseling sessions were conducted, 60 couple counseling, and 42 group therapy sessions were held. As a result of psychosocial support, survivors of violence take charge of their lives and some have been incorporated into the Community Peer Counseling Support Programme to act as pillars of support to other women still undergoing abuse in their respective communities.

FIDA Staff also benefit from counseling and debriefing sessions to help them cope with burnout and be in a better position to serve clients.

Story of Change Kisumu Office

A group therapy client had this to share.

"I no longer lack sleep like I used to. I had stayed under house arrest for 16 years. I never had a phone and I was never allowed to visit my kinsmen including my own parents. I could never go to church or market. It's until my mom passed on that my husband released me after a week just to attend the burial, my mom never saw my children. My mother's burial rescued me from the house arrest. This group has taught me that women can sit and discuss development and encourage one another. It is through the encouragement from this group that I have now enrolled in a hair dressing school with the help of my younger brother. Thank you so much FIDA. I am now have self-confidence and can handle stress. God Bless FIDA.

1.6 Pro Bono Lawyer Scheme

As a result of the high demand for legal services by Kenyan women, FIDA Kenya established a Pro bono Lawyers Scheme in 1997 and has been able to mobilize and enroll over 400 lawyers into the scheme. Both male and female lawyers in private practice countrywide have volunteered to take up cases on behalf of FIDA Kenya. This scheme majorly supports women who reside far from the location of FIDA Kenya offices to access justice at a minimum cost. In 2016, the organization referred 131 clients to various pro bono lawyers.

To enhance the pro bono lawyers' capacity and to keep the scheme active, FIDA Kenya offers the pro bono lawyers training on new and emerging legal issues.

Some of the Cases Concluded Through the Pro-Bono Lawyers Scheme Malindi High Court Divorce Cause No. 10 Of 2016; K.A.S vs. M.M.K

The Petitioner herein approached us to assist with her divorce matter. She was seeking divorce on grounds of cruelty as well as 50% stake in all the matrimonial property. Her ex-husband is an advocate and she raised concerns about going against him in court. She was referred to a pro bono advocate to handle the matter. The matter was filed and heard and judgment delivered on 13th October, 2016. The court granted the divorce. Our client was happy with the outcome.

Succ/4526A Kisumu HC Succ No. 88 Of 2014 Our Client – EAO

Client sought legal assistance on how she would protect and inherit her deceased father-in-law estate which was being taken away by neighbors after the death of her husband.

We filed petition for a grant of letters of administration of her deceased father-in-law's estate and referred the matter to our pro bono lawyer who handled the matter on her behalf.

The court granted her prayers in November 2016 and the parcel of land was granted to her and a certificate to that effect issued by court.

1.7 Partnerships and Alliance Building (Legal Referrals)

FIDA Kenya is alive to the fact that work of confronting patriarchy and inequalities cannot be accomplished single handedly. It is the organization's value that there is strength in numbers and we are therefore continuously seeking to identify and work with strategic partners who share in our vision towards securing social justice for women. In 2016, FIDA Kenya referred 761 clients to various networking partners including; children's department, Land office, Kenya Police Service, Judiciary, County Administrators among other organizations.

Voices from a referral client

"I am very happy that I got the caveat from the Lands office after FIDA Kenya referred me there. I was stranded and did not know where to begin but FIDA held my hand and showed me the way. Asante sana FIDA. "



FIDA Kenya at the Referral Partners legal aid forum in Meru



1.8 Strategic Impact Litigation

FIDA Kenya in an effort to continually engage in innovative approaches towards access to justice has embraced strategic impact litigation as an avenue to address widespread and systemic human rights violations and also matters of social justice vide a single proclamation. FIDA Kenya engages this creative technique of litigation to bring invaluable light to existing gaps in policy and legislation. FIDA Kenya has been engaged in a number of public interest litigation cases in various courts across the country among them;

MOMBASA OFFICE

Malindi Constitutional Petition Number 8 Of 2013 Fida Kenya & 3 Others v Kagaa Coperative Society, The Attorney General & National Land Commission

This is a case on women land rights and the historical injustices on land that that have been experienced generally in the Coast and more particularly how it has affected women and the community at large. This matter was heard and judgment delivered on 14th September, 2016. The Petition was dismissed. The court was of the opinion that allowing the petition as prayed would be inviting the court on a flight of fancy by asking it to find that their ancestors were discriminated against and that the enforcement of the alleged infringed rights should be enforced now. We have since filed a notice of appeal.

Malindi Constitutional Petition Number 10 of 2014 FIDA Kenya & 3 Others v Attorney General, Inspector General of Police & National Land Commission

This matter was partially heard on 18th May, 2016 with 2 witnesses testifying on behalf of the Petitioners. Matter was stood over to 6th and 7th September, 2016 when 1 more witness testified. There are 2 more witnesses who have not been available to testify. We will take a fresh date on 22nd February, 2017 as the judge hearing the matter was not sitting on 14th February, 2017 when we were to take a further hearing date.

Cases of Public Interest

FIDA Kenya intervenes in cases where there is a public uproar and cases that generate public interest due to the impunity with which women rights are disregarded. In the year 2016 some of the cases that FIDA Kenya intervened were: **R v Cosmus Obura & Joash Naribo**

Offense: Infringement of Childrens Rights to Protection from Sexual Exploitation c/s 15 as read together with sec 20 of the Children's Act **Court file: 76/2016**

This is a criminal case in which two MCAs in Kisii County were caught keeping the company of underage girls. FIDA is watching brief in in the matter to safeguard the rights of the girls. The first hearing was on 9th and 10th February 2017 where the two girls testified. Further hearing will be on 28th and 29th April 2017.

KISUMU OFFICE

FIDA/KISM/CRIM/5210/16

Defilement and Corporal Punishment at Friend's School Keveye Girls

This was a case that caught the interest of public early in 2016. Video clips of girls being administered with corporal punishment at Keveye Girls did a good round on social media. The Teacher Service Commission (TSC) had been directed to conduct investigation on the same issue by the Cabinet Secretary for Education Hon. Fred Matiang'i. Shortly thereafter, FIDA Kenya received reports that a male teacher was sexually harassing female students with impunity in the same school.

Through FIDA's interventions, TSC conducted their investigations on the two allegations. The male teacher and the then school principal were interdicted on or about July 2016. The matter is currently under investigations with the police for possible criminal prosecution of the culprits.

2.0 WOMEN AND GOVERNANCE PROGRAM

The Women & Governance team works on maintaining and consolidating Constitutional gains made by women over the years and addressing new challenges that arise in efforts towards the actualization of gender equality. The programme seeks to enhance women's participation and realization of their socio-economic and cultural rights. In achieving its objectives, the programme has adopted a holistic approach by strategically engaging key stakeholders including; community members and gate keepers, government agencies both at the national and county levels, private sector, civil society organizations and regional and international agencies and institutions.

In 2016, the team recorded the following achievements:-

2.1 Training of Regular and Administration Police officers on Gender Based Violence Prevention and Response (Homabay County)

FIDA Kenya conducted a training on GBV prevention and response for Law enforcement officers constituting: - Administration Police officers, The Kenya Police, Chiefs and Assistant Chiefs. A total of 48 participants were trained consisting of 24 female (50 %) and 24 men (50 %) in attendance. The training enhanced the service provider's knowledge on GBV case management. The officers adopted multi sectoral approach in handling GBV. As way forward the officers agreed on the following changes they would implement in their stations:-;

To be more sensitive to GBV clients; listen to survivors as opposed to interrogating; cooperate with the county doctors and other law enforcement officers including chiefs, elders, paralegals, children's officers and prosecutors; Cooperate in evidence collection; embrace alternative dispute resolution (ADR) mechanisms especially mediation in non-criminal matters and refer cases to FIDA when need arises.



Participants during a training organized for regular and administration police officers on gender based violence prevention and response (Homabay County)

2.2 International Women's Day 2016

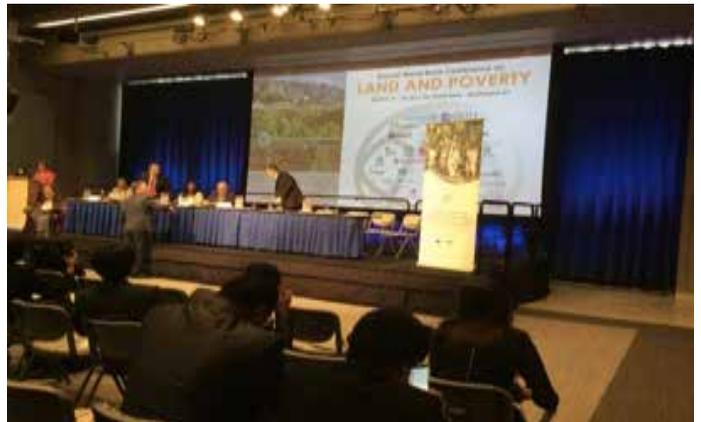
During the 2016 International Women's Day, FIDA Kenya took the opportunity to sensitize the women on Anti-Female Genital Mutilation Act 2011, violence against women and girls (VAWG) and early child forced Marriage (CEFM). The meeting was held in Magadi Division, Kajiado County where in 2013 a girl died after the cut. FIDA Kenya is watching brief over the case filed in Machakos law Court. The women's rights forum (WRF) was attended by over 60 women and 2 men. The information disseminated was expected to reach the wider community through the women in other community gatherings. FIDA Kenya also commemorated Zero Tolerance Day against FGM/C, VAWG and CEFM in Rombo where 70 clients were attended to. Further, 20 police officers were trained on FGM prevention and response in focus counties one of them being Samburu County.

2.3 World Bank Conference

FIDA Kenya participated in the 17th Annual World Bank Conference on land and property in Washington D.C from 14th to 18th March 2016. The annual event provides a great platform for different land actors to interact and share their work and experience on land rights. The organization seized the opportunity to engage different actors including the government representatives and civil society representatives from all over the world.

During the deliberations FIDA Kenya called for informed international discourse on women's rights through increased collaboration and coordination.

The Ministry of Lands extended an invitation to the different non-state land actors present in the forum to discuss a joint CSO memorandum. Consequently, FIDA together with other non-state actors drafted a memorandum on community and compulsory land acquisition as well as the advisory opinion on the role of The National Land Commission and the Ministry of lands which was presented during a meeting with the Cabinet secretary on 12th April 2016.



FIDA Kenya Treasurer
Nancy Ikinu and
Programme Officer
Mitchelle Oyuga
during the World Bank
Conference

2.4 The 60th Committee on the Status of Women 2016 (CSW)

FIDA Kenya participated in the 60th Committee on the Status of Women conference in New York from 14th to 24th March 2016 and presented a shadow report.

FIDA Kenya also developed an 8th Periodic Report to CEDAW on legislative reform, employment, education, marriage, health and discrimination of women in public and political arena.

2.5 CBO Training on the Protection against Domestic Violence Act, 2015

FIDA Kenya has a sustained partnership with community based organizations to offer legal aid to women and girls at the county level. In 2016, FIDA Kenya convened a total of 30 paralegals drawn from community based organizations in Nyanza, Western, Rift Valley and the Coastal regions for training on the Protection against Domestic Violence Act, 2015. The trainings conducted by FIDA Kenya staff were held in Kisumu and Mombasa.

The trainings covered the gaps in legislation as well as the salient features of the Protection against Domestic Violence Act, 2015. Given the rising cases of domestic violence the training proved to be very timely. A head count revealed that only 2 out of the 30 paralegals were aware of the existence of a statute that guards against domestic violence. At the end of the training the participant's understanding of the law was tested through cases studies. The cases studies provided an opportunity for the paralegals to reflect on the law as a team and to resolve hypothetic situations that they come across in their daily work. The feedback from the case studies revealed an increased understanding of the law and the role of third parties in addressing domestic violence. The participants being the heads of the various CBOs they represented undertook to do the following:-

- Sensitize the Community on the provisions of the Prevention against Domestic Violence Act, 2015 through the Chief's baraza.
- Undertake timely referral of complicated cases to FIDA Kenya offices for further legal assistance, psychosocial support and further action within their areas of jurisdiction
- Report cases and liaise with the police in cases where arrests are made and make follow ups on prosecution
- Conduct capacity building for children through their clubs in schools and religious institutions on the provisions relating to their application for protection orders being made by a representative
- Explore counseling as a right for applicants of protection orders as provided in the Act



IDA Kenya Programme officer Michelle Oyuga during a CBO training on Protection against GBV

2.6 Training of women aspirants

In the months of August, September and October 2016, continuous training of women aspirants was conducted in several counties. The trainings under the DANIDA grant aimed to build capacity of women as they contest for political office. During these three months, the trainings were conducted in Wajir, West Pokot, Nyeri, Nyandarua, Nakuru, Kilifi, Mombasa, Kwale and Migori counties.



Participants keenly following on trainings during the training for women aspirants

2.7 Lobbying political parties towards gender equality in party structures

FIDA Kenya continued to lobby political party representatives in Nairobi and Nakuru Counties

towards inclusion of women in political party leadership structures. The trainings undertaken in partnership with Youth Agenda, sought to impress upon the political party representatives, the importance of having functional women's wings within their party structures and at the same time, ensuring these women wings are active. Two meetings with political party representatives in Nakuru and Kisii were conducted in August 2016.



Additionally, inter party forum for women aspirants in Nairobi and Turkana Counties was conducted. The forum aimed to establish commonalities between the aspirants as well as establish best practices that would enhance their visibility in their various political parties.

Vote a Dada Campaign

FIDA Kenya in conjunction with EU Oxfam and Youth Agenda launched a campaign dubbed “Vote a Dada” that sought to sensitize and influence policy makers and the electorate on the need to support the election of more women in electoral positions.

2.8 Community dialogue forum on female genital mutilation



In the year 2016, FIDA Kenya conducted community dialogue forums on FGM in Kajiado. During these trainings the organization reached out to 29 women and 21 men. During the trainings, the following issues emerged as a result of the dialogue; it was noted that there was lack of enough shelters within the County. The group recommended monitoring of the situation on the ground and prepare on how to protect girls and women schemes that ensure that girls remain protected beyond their time at the rescue center. It was also recommended that a rescue centre be opened in Kajiado that is accessible to community members.

The forum acknowledged that culture is an issue the community is unwilling to abandon and it enhances violence against women and girls. Issues regarding law enforcement were also expressed whereby police officers find it difficult to rescue girls since violations are reported too late. The team recommended for a better reporting systems that ensure that law enforcers are able to rescue girls. Cultural views can also be used advantageously whereby mothers who are influential in their children’s lives should be the pioneers of change in their community. The group agreed it is important to abandon the traditional myths such as ‘Entapai’ which suggest that girls who have not undergone FGM are considered to be an abomination within the community and other false beliefs that suggest men should only marry women who have undergone FGM.

The forum recommended the use of positive traditional stories to equally dispel the current cultural practices; *For instance, they could rely on old practices where only uncut women could bring the rains back or that cut women were incapable of carrying food for feasts in fear of ruining them to turn the situation round to suite campaigns against female genital mutilation and violence against women and girls.* The group identified specific target groups in communities that need more education than others, for example, Moran boys and men who retain their traditional perspectives of women.

Stigma; there are high levels of stigma and discrimination experienced by girls who have not undergone FGM. They tend to be ostracized to the extent that they seek the practices themselves. The team recommended encouragement of open dialogue among girls and promote education on the topic of FGM and women’s rights to ensure that girls are aware of the false perceptions that revolve around these practices.

Lack of enforcement of the law in cases where women carry out FGM on their children or grandchildren and are arrested, they are eventually set free in court because they cannot be held accountable due to their lack of knowledge. There is need to include the education against FGM and GBV in school curriculums. This should be incorporated in girls and boys education from primary school. The forum concluded that the role of Maasai elders is very influential. They could play a major part in encouraging the rest of the community to abandon outdated cultural practices. These elders and community leaders need to be more outspoken about women's rights.

Chiefs were reminded that they should set positive examples to the general community. Where they flout the rules, convictions should act as a deterrent for chiefs who may commit the same acts. The case in point that was referenced in regards to these issues was that of a chief who was convicted for attempting to marry a thirteen year old girl and was sentenced to seven years in Jail. Politicians equally play important role as stated by senatorial and MCA aspirants who were present. They called for more forums to address women's rights since politicians are not always in a position to speak freely about such contentious matters.

The forum also recommended for better approaches to handle that are familiar to each community concepts to be used to lobby for change of attitude on FGM and violence against women and girls. For instance, religion and the bible by showing that the bible does not mention any practice of FGM hence this would be persuasive to community members. They could also use powerful and successful women as good examples that younger girls can look up to. The forum felt the need for the government to provide shelters for survivors of GBV. There is also need for improvement facilities that treatment of GBV survivors. For instance, the health workers stated that there are not enough P3 forms at the police station and they are therefore available at cyber cafes. This should not be the case

2.9 County Government Contribution on Gender and Climate Change

Climate change affects people differently and on various scales depending on their gender, social status, geographical location, and their access and control over resources.

It is for this reason that the Climate Change, Agriculture and Food Security (CCAFS) in collaboration with National Gender and Equality Commission (NGEC) and the Federation of Women Lawyers-Kenya (FIDA Kenya) deemed it best to have a dialogue with the County Governments on the detrimental effects of climate change on the environment taking into consideration the



Workshop on Gender and climate Change organized by NGEC and FIDA Kenya for CECs under the Ministry of Gender and environment from the 47 Counties held on 15th December 2016 at Lake Naivasha, Simba Lodge

primary and secondary victims of climate change and addressing the mechanisms adopted by the Counties and well as the challenges being faced at the County level with respect to the environment.

This approach brought together eleven county Governments with representatives from the environment, water and natural resources Committees as well as the Gender and Youth Committees. The workshop sought to achieve the following objectives:

- Understanding of gender responsive and climate change smart policies and laws
- Development of sector specific indicators for monitoring and evaluating climate change initiatives at National and County level
- Development of a database to host information on the sector specific indicators. These were all achieved after the forum.

3. Safe Guarding the Constitutional Gains for Women in Social, Economic And Governance

Legislative reforms and advocacy

FIDA Kenya has been actively involved in the advocacy towards realization of the 2/3 gender principle and development of a viable formula through the Technical Working Group set up by the Attorney General. The organization advocated for the adoption of the formula through lobbying meetings, campaigns at the county and national levels, developing and sharing information with the general public, both as an organization and collectively with other organizations.

The formula proposed by the Technical Working Groups (TWG) led to the Duale Bill. FIDA Kenya working with other like-minded organizations including NGECC lobbied Members of Parliament to support the bill through various initiatives unsuccessfully. Further to this, Senator Hon. Judith Sijeny, also a FIDA Kenya member tabled a bill on the 2/3rds principle in the Senate unsuccessfully. Our efforts towards the 2/3rds principle formula in the national parliament have been sustained despite the manifest lack of political goodwill.

Lobbying dinner with Members of Parliament for support of the Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) (No. 4) Bill, 2015 (Duale 1 Bill).

FIDA Kenya partnered with the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) and the National Gender and Equality Commission (NGECC) to hold a dinner for male Members of Parliament on Tuesday 26th April 2016 at Intercontinental Hotel, Nairobi County to lobby for passing of proposed Constitution of Kenya (Amendment) (No. 4) Bill, 2015 (Duale 1 Bill) and to sustain the momentum until the next day vote. 33 male members and 40 women members attended. Despite the lobbying, the bill did not pass on a fist vote.

FIDA Kenya also developed memoranda on the Community Bill and the proposed amendments to the Public Benefit Organizations Act, through the Civil Society Reference Group. We also developed rules on Matrimonial Property Act that were submitted to the Rules Committee of the Judiciary for considerations. FIDA Kenya also responded to the Attorney General's invitation to comment on the Public Trustee Act proposed amendments and the draft Rules under the various marriage laws.

4.0 FIDA KENYA COUNCIL & MEMBERSHIP

FIDA Kenya being a membership organization currently has a total membership of 1174 members. One of FIDA Kenya's core values is empowerment; that is, empowering women, its staff, the membership and stakeholders and in line with this FIDA Kenya has continuously sought to empower her membership through trainings that are geared towards ensuring that members were well prepared and able to take up leadership positions in line with affirmative action as enshrined in the Constitution of Kenya 2010.

FIDA Kenya members actively participated in the Annual Members retreat held at Baobab beach Resort Spa, Ukunda from 14th to 18th August 2016. During the retreat, the organization partnered with the National Counter Terrorism Center to train members on [Radicalization and Countering Violent Extremism, Identifying suspicious items, people and activities and What to do in case of active shooting](#). The rationale for the workshop was to utilize the FIDA Kenya framework to disseminate pertinent information and materials Radicalization and Countering Violent Extremism.

Some of the key Membership benefits include recommendation for high ranking positions in the Judiciary and various Constitutional Commissions. About 20 Members of FIDA have been appointed to various capacities in the Judiciary to date. Excellent networking opportunities with the FIDA Kenya fraternity during FIDA Kenya annual general meetings, membership forums, membership retreats and FIDA Kenya's events and activities

Renewed Energy

It is important to note that for every successful organization, there are men and women who have dedicated their time, effort and even resources to ensure the success, FIDA Kenya is no exception. The organization has a dedicated staff, council and members who have continued to steer the organization to greater heights over the years.

In March 2016 FIDA Kenya elected its new Council for the next two years chaired by Mrs. Josephine Wambua Mongare. The council comprises ten (10) members, nine of whom are elected every two years from the membership. The immediate past Chairperson of the organization continues to serve in the Council for a period of one term. The Council is responsible for making organizational policy and overseeing the implementation of the policy.

The Governance team includes

- Josephine Wambua-Mongàre - Chairperson
- Grace C. Nyongesa - Vice Chairperson
- Faith Mony Odhiambo – Secretary
- Nancy Kang`ethe Ikinu- Treasurer
- Roselyne Odede- Upcountry Representative(Western)
- Jacqueline Waihenya- Upcountry Representative(Coast)
- Betty Achieng- Council Member
- Lily K. Musinga- Council Member
- Edna Bosibori- Council Member



Josephine Wambua-Mongàre

For successful implementation and day to day running of FIDA Kenya’s objects and programmes, the organization has a secretariat which is headed by an Executive Director. The Executive Director is the accounting officer of the organization and oversees and super vises, under the direction of the Council the implementation and execution of policy, the coordination and running of programmes among other duties. The secretariat comprises of the head office based in Nairobi and two regional offices based in Kisumu and Mombasa

5.0 ADVANCING WOMEN`S RIGHTS IN KENYA:

Experiences from Staff & Members

Making A Difference in the Society:

My Experience Working For FIDA Kenya By Janet Phily Anyango



I am an advocate of the High Court of Kenya currently engaged as the legal Counsel/Programme Officer at FIDA Kenya's Kisumu Office passionate about upholding the rule of law and promoting human rights with a specific bias on women's rights. My day to day duties include offering legal advice to clients, representation clients in court, facilitating mediation sessions, carrying out legal research on Strategic Impact Litigation and arising legal issues; planning and implementing projects on behalf of the organization, facilitating trainings on diverse subjects and compiling comprehensive and timely reports as well representing the organization in various donor/stakeholder and/ or partner meetings.

As a young advocate, focusing on offering pro bono legal aid to indigenous women would ordinarily not be lucrative. Indeed I do face a number of challenges while diligently tackling the diverse legal disputes presented by our clients. However the opportunity to work at FIDA Kenya has earned me the noble pleasure to give back to the community by fearlessly pursuing justice for women in all spheres. More so I am humbled to have garnered virtues such as team work, patience, consistency, transparency and accountability which fuel my everyday desire to make a difference in our clients' lives. I endeavor to always respects and uphold women's rights in the spirit of the Constitution of Kenya 2010 and International Laws and with a view of ending all forms of discrimination against women. As Rick Warren famously quotes, "passion drives perfection" so is my everyday motto to serve FIDA Kenya clients passionately, tirelessly and diligently in strife of perfection in ending all forms of violence against women.

Working with FIDA Kenya – Collins Oluoch, Volunteer Intern

Passion is what we do effortlessly without being nudged. When I think of advocating for women rights and children, I think of nothing short of passion. But why be passionate about this, am a boy child anyway, I should be passionate about boy child. I agree in totality, but we must create level grounds for everyone. We must be equal and we must have fair chances as everyone else in everything we pursue, and that, just that is the premise for my passion.

Volunteering at FIDA Kenya stopped being a work to me anymore and became part of me. Ranging from the success stories, the gains and leaps women make every day, all this crown the gloomy days of listening to harrowing stories from clients to being beautiful. I took up the opportunity to work at FIDA Kenya with a lot of zeal as I anticipated an eye opening experience. Every day has had its share of high moments and low moments. All these are recipes of life.

I currently work at Women and Governance department and often join the Access to Justice Team to carry out legal aid clinics and also screen our clients. Every day I walk into the office my desire has always been to serve our clients and my colleagues. The most important lesson I have learnt overtime is that FIDA Kenya is not the building but the team and thus this explains why all of us are flexible.

I have learnt to work under almost all departments. As a volunteer my normal day routine is to first thing in the morning check my email in case there is any work I need to do, this ranges from research, report writing or case search. After this I inquire from my team if there is any assignment I need to do. It is after these that I join the Access to Justice Team or join any other department. Working in FIDA so far has sharpened every angle of my life. I have become more enthusiastic and passionate about matters women and children, politically I think of voting in women; culturally I endeavor to empower people to overcome retrogressive cultures that violate women rights. My joy and dream is one day to wake up in a world without FGM, GBV, and Early Child Marriages and with gender equality. I know this day will never come if we don't fight for it today. That's what we are doing at FIDA.

That's our little thing.
We Are Bold for Change!



MY ENGAGEMENT AS A MEMBER, FIDA-KENYA

Catherine Wangui

I was once seated in the cyber café in the busy streets of Nairobi browsing through my emails when someone exclaimed behind me, “Are you also FIDA?” I could not tell for how long the young man had been reading my emails with me but for sure, I knew what those words he expressed meant. His loud exclamation led to several heads turning my way. I still remember the heat those words generated. As I write this now, many years later, I know what been a FIDA member means, what reactions the membership or association with FIDA generates, both positive and negative. To most that have benefited from the services of the organization, FIDA is a ray of sun shine, a ray of hope and a feeling of, ‘I am in safe hands finally’.



My journey with FIDA began in 2006 while still a second year Law student at Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) having been introduced and mentored in to the federation by Dorcas Kitaa, who was at that time a council member of FIDA Kenya. Many years later, Dorcas Kitaa still looks at me and greets me with that warm smile that gave me the reassurance then and still gives me that same reassurance that I am in the right place and that I will not regret for a second that I became part of this greet women movement.

For the past 10 years, I have benefited a great deal from the many privileges that come with FIDA membership. My life and career development have taken a beautiful turn. I have been exposed to a world broader and more impactful than what an ordinary law student would envisage; that of a litigant with only the knowledge of court corridors. The forums that FIDA- K organizes for her members have given me a firm grasp of gender and development, deeper understanding of gender responsive budgeting and legislation among other key elements of law and development.

It has been a beautiful journey of growth, interacting with able FIDA leadership and staff while on the field and most important, FIDA- K has given me an opportunity to build Kenya in very unique ways that only the work of a power house like women lawyers can do. I wish the organization the very best as she moves to sustainability as demanded by current trends of organizational development.

6.0 STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS AND ALLIANCES

One of the key objectives of FIDA-K is to nurture strategic alliances with like-minded organizations and individuals in order to harness the collective power of women to achieve social justice.

The organization has engaged in strategic partnerships with various stakeholders such as: the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ); JSC's committee on the Establishment of the International Crimes Division; The Civil Society Think Tanks & Kenyans for Justice and Peace (KPTJ); GBV Sub cluster group convened by NGEC; Parliamentary Initiative Network (PIN); and CSO Reference Group.

Through consultative meetings, joint ventures in project design and implementation, lobbying and fostering public dialogue, FIDA-K has kept these partnerships alive and reaped their benefits. FIDA-K's representation in various government initiatives (such as, Technical Working Group on 2/3rd Gender Principle; Technical Working Group of NGEC on Rules and Regulations; Judicial Taskforce on Sentencing; Judicial Taskforce on Alternative Dispute Resolution; National Council for Administration of Justice; Technical Working Group reviewing the Adolescent Reproductive Health Policy; Advisory Consultative Committee on International Human Rights Treaties; National GBV Sub-cluster; and Police Reform Working Group) enhances its capacity to engage with the relevant bodies and authorities in reforming women rights issues in the Kenyan labour market.

FIDA Kenya has been an active member of the Elections Observation Group (ELOG) since 2010 .In 2016, the current Chair of FIDA Kenya, Ms. Josephine Mong'are, was elected to co-chair the Advisory Peace Panel together with Bishop Cornelius Korir. The Advisory and Peace Panel is the political wing of ELOG that comprises of selected Chair's of the 10 member organizations and Eminent Personalities. ELOG will play a critical role towards advocating for credible, free and fair elections in 2017. FIDA Kenya also presented a memorandum to the Attorney General on the Islamic Marriage Rules under the Marriage Act and Rules of Marriage and Divorce under Islamic Law and also on the review process of the Public Trustee Act.

7.0 Giving Back to the Society – Friends of FIDA Initiative

The friends of FIDA is an initiative which is aimed at furthering the mission and vision of FIDA-Kenya. This is a fund raising initiative that was meant to bring on board men and women who wanted to become members of FIDA but were limited by FIDA Constitution that only allows women lawyers practicing in Kenya to register as members.

This initiative was commissioned in 2003 after a series of successful legal golf tournaments between 1998 and 2002. Since then, it has expanded with a membership over 300 friends. These include local and international corporate, civil society organizations, politicians, professionals, businessmen and women, lawyers, international organizations etc. Friends of FIDA are largely drawn from local corporations, business and law firms, independent foundations, NGOs and individual well-wishers. A key benefit of enrolment include an opportunity to contribute towards transforming the life of many families in Kenya.

FIDA Kenya seeks to revive this initiative and turn it into a social networking platform that will bring individuals and philanthropists from across the world into the FIDA Family.

If want to become part of the change? Join us and rediscover the beauty in giving. Become a Friend of FIDA today and help transform the future of a generation.

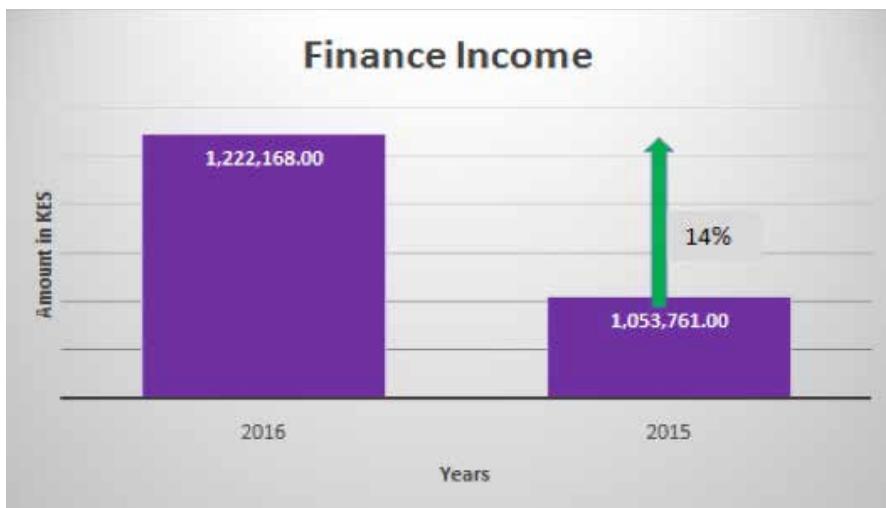
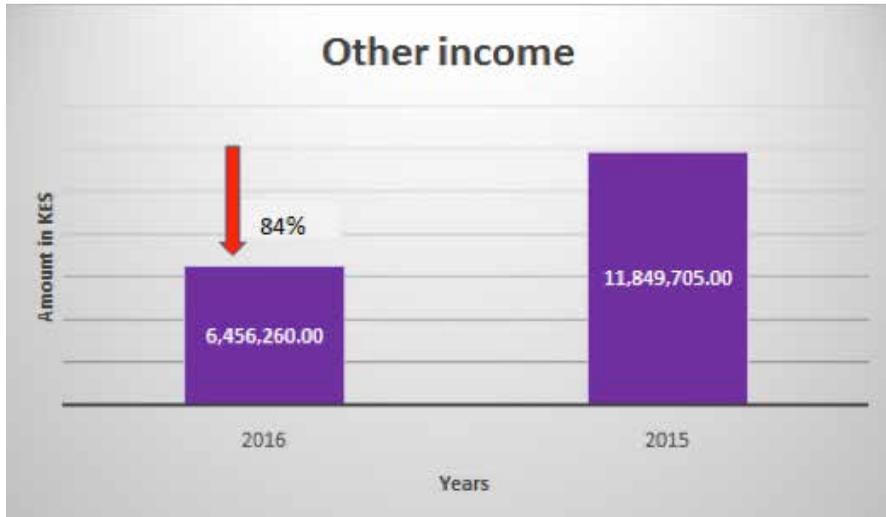
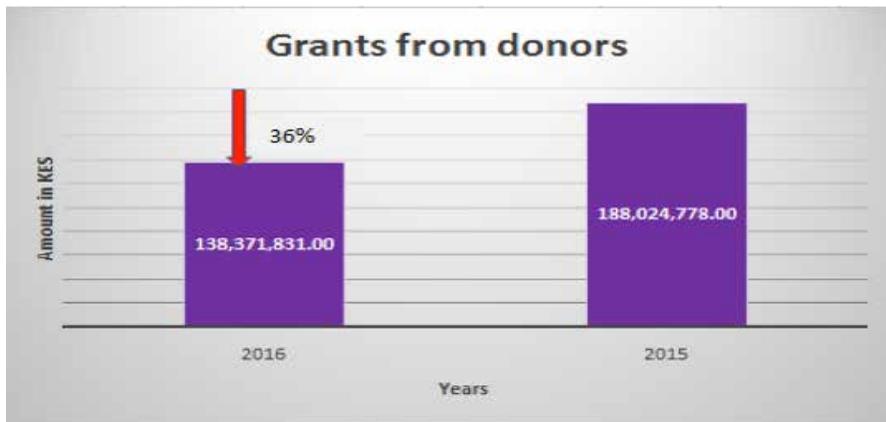
Log in to <http://www.fidakenya.org>

click on DONATE or go to the support us icon on our website and select support a cause.

To become a Friend of FIDA fill in our Online Subscription form or visiting our offices.

“... It’s the power of giving, it’s the power in you,
support a woman today.... rebuild a family’s “future.

8.0 FINANCE UPDATES



The year under review saw the organization report a net surplus of KES 16.7m as compared to KES 5.8m in the previous year. The surplus was as a result of cost cutting measures put in place during the year.

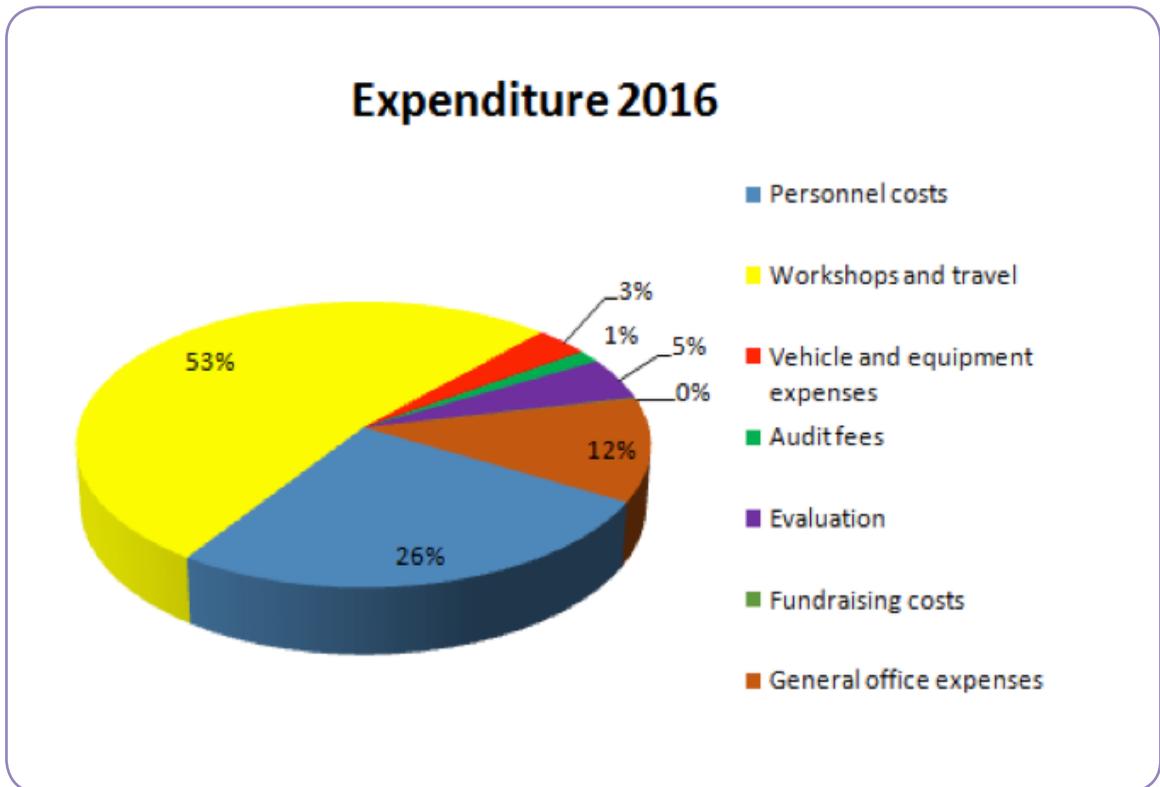
Rebasing of Kenya to a middle income country led to the decline in grants from donors by 36% from KES 188m to KES 138.3m.

Further, Clients registration fees, Friends of FIDA, membership and endowment fund that make up other income decreased by 84% from 11.8m to 6.4m.

Finance income grew by 14% from 1m to 1.2m.

Expenditure

The principle activities of the organization in the year included; offering legal services, creating awareness on gender and legal rights, Civic education, advocating for reform of laws and policies that protect women's rights, monitoring the Government's compliance with regional and international human rights instruments among others. The total organizational expenditure was KES 129.3m which was a 33.7% decrease from 195.1m in the year 2015.



	2016	2015	Variance
Personal costs	33.68	45.12	-34%
Workshops and travel	67.89	102.07	-50%
Information dissemination	0.00	0.25	-100%
Vehicle and equipment expenses	4.37	4.55	-4%
Audit fees	1.87	1.77	6%
Evaluation	6.20	5.48	12%
Fundraising costs	0.16	2.95	-1693
Other expenses	0.00	11.04	-100%
General office expenses	15.13	21.87	-45%
Total expenditure	129.30	195.10	

There was general cost containment under personnel costs, workshop and travel, vehicle, equipment, fundraising costs and general office expenses. Audit fees and evaluations costs went up as a result of the KRA audit and mid-term strategic plan evaluation.

Audits

The NGO Act requires the management to prepare financial statement for each financial year that gives a true and fair view of the state of the organization's financial affairs and of its surplus or deficit for the year under review. In conformity with the requirement the organization was audited and given an unqualified opinion by its auditors PricewaterhouseCoopers.

An audit was conducted by KRA and the organization granted a five year income exemption certificate.

Budget 2017

The organizational budget for 2017 is set at 240.7m. So far 57% funding has been secured. The main areas with funding gaps are the access to justice program (legal aid, mediation, debriefing and the pro –bono lawyer scheme.) The women and Governance program is seeking funds for civic education in preparation for the 2017 elections. While the institutional strengthening team is seeking funds for membership activities, staff capacity development and fundraising initiatives.

The organization is also seeking funding for purchase of the FIDA house. So far the funds raised total to KES 13.1m. An additional KES 31.9m is required.