



## ASSOCIATION OF COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS FOR REFORMS NOW

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### REPORT FOR THE MONTH OF OCTOBER 2012 31<sup>ST</sup> OCTOBER 2012

#### **Emerging scenario in Kenyan**

Kenya is now exactly five (5) months to the general election which is scheduled to take place on 4<sup>th</sup> of March 2013. The country is already in campaign mood and issues of peace and civic education are strongly emerging. Most parts of the country especially the urban poor are still volatile and prone to recurrence of violence experienced in the post election violence of 2007/8. The politicians are fueling this through hate speech in the presidential campaigns and Balkanizing the country on ethnic lines by mobilizing and rallying their communities behind them. The internally displaced Persons (IDP) who were displaced during the post election violence are still leaving in camps five years down the line. The International Criminal Case (ICC) is due to start in April 2013 and two of our presidential candidates who were indicted are going to face trial on crime against humanity.

As a result of this scenario all development agencies and the Kenya government are directing all their efforts towards peace building activities and preparing the country on peaceful elections before and after casting the ballot.

Civic education is also the currency. The general election is going to be a unique one under the devolved system of government. Under the old constitution only three candidates were voted in; the president, Member of Parliament and the councillor. Under the new constitutional dispensation eight (8) candidates are going to be voted in ;the president,senator,member of the parliament, youth representative ,women representative, governor and the ward representative.

This is going to be very confusing to the majority. That is why being part of the community cannot delink us from the processes of peace building and civic education. Kenya community development Fund (KCDF) has already appraised ACORN Kenya for engaging us on civic education and governance. Oxfam GB will soon be doing the same.

Apart from this, we have not lost focus on our normal community organizing activities of building consolidating our grassroots base through membership recruitment, dues collection and issue based campaigns

## Membership recruitment drive.

12 members joined ACORN Kenya Trust during the month of October

VILLAGE	NEW MEMBERS
Grogon B	2
Korogocho A	2
Gitathuru	1
Highridge	4
Kisumu ndogo	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>

## MEETINGS

### Membership Meetings

We held two membership meetings in Kisumu Ndogo and Highridge. Members from other villages also attended

VILLAGE	DATE	VENUE	ATTENDANCE	AGENDA
Kisumu Ndogo	26/10/2012	Big pen academy	82	- Membership recruitment drive. - Other up-dates on peace and civic education activities -Dues collection
Highridge	24/10/2012	Calvary church	94	-dues collection -membership recruitment drive. - Other up-dates on peace and civic education activities.

### Dues collection

VILLAGE	MEMBERS WHO PAID	TOTAL IN KSHS
Kisumu Ndogo	55	1100
Highridge	68	1360
Other villages	5	100
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>128</b>	<b>2,560</b>

### Subcommittee meeting on the polytechnic campaign

VENUE	DATE	TIME	ACTIVITIES	ATTENDANCE
ACORN Kenya offices Kariobangi	8/10/2012 monday	10.00am To 12.00noon	-Up dates -Planning and sharing of roles.	6 community leaders
ACORN Kenya offices Kariobangi	22/10/201 2 monday	2.00pm To 4.00pm	-Up dates -Planning and sharing of roles.	5 community leaders

### Education campaigns

Identifying youth opportunities in community

CDF committee and the local administration claim that Korogocho has a youth polytechnic. After analyzing the questionnaires there are emerging issues and concerns by the community on the existing Youth polytechnic in Korogocho;

- Was built in 2009 using funds from Constituency Development Fund (CDF) only one class was put there and courses offered there were to be carpentry, bakery, driving, tailoring and masonry.
- Only driving course started and was even not done there.
- The project stalled after one year as the management was taken to court due to mismanagement of funds and tribalism.
- They want the elections of the management body to be elected directly by the community members as opposed to direct nomination by the area member of parliament.
- the management is from one community
- even the students sponsored , more than  $\frac{3}{4}$  were from the same community

We have come up with a team which is going around in major offices of CDF and the Constituency development offices to gather more information before we embark on the campaign to hold the offices accountable.

Sammy and David

ACORN Kenya Trust Community Organizers