



Kenya Coalition on Youth,
Peace and Security

KENYA COALITION ON YOUTH PEACE AND SECURITY

January - May 2024

First Quarter Report



Project: Wakenya4YPS

Accelerating a national youth-inclusive process to inform the
National Action Plan on Youth Peace and Security in Kenya.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY



Narok County Consultations



This report provides a comprehensive overview of the activities undertaken by the Kenya Coalition on Youth Peace and Security (KCYPS) from January to May under the Wakenya4YPS project: *Accelerating a national youth-inclusive process to inform the National Action Plan on Youth Peace and Security in Kenya*. The report highlights extensive county consultations, advocacy efforts—both online and physical—and various other activities aimed at promoting youth involvement in peace and security.

A total of 18 county consultations have been conducted, 24 more to go. These consultations have provided great insight and learning the needs, attitudes, priorities and impacts of young people and other stakeholders on youth peace and security agenda at the grassroots and counties in Kenya, actively contributing to the priority areas for the National Action Plan (NAP).

Our engagements and advocacy efforts emphasize the importance of the county consultation as this process not only amplify youth voices but also foster collaboration among diverse groups and identities ensuring a unified approach for the NAP process. A whole of society approach and ensuring that no one is left behind especially those who are not in the cities whose ideas and impact are overlooked.

During this period, KCYPS has demonstrated the importance of investing in the Youth Peace and Security agenda.

INTRODUCTION TO THE PROJECT

The Wakenya4YPS project seeks to support the Youth of Kenya in the Youth Peace and Security (YPS) agenda especially in informing the process of developing a National Action Plan (NAP). This will help ensure a coordinated and collaborative process for youth-led groups to shape and contribute meaningfully to the NAP.

If fully operationalized, the project can contribute to the protection of Human right and transformative element of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2250, 2419 and 2535 which recognizes youth as partners and agents of peace and calls for their participation at all levels of decision-making on matters of peace and security and governance. Since its commencement, the project has received commitments from the two levels of governments, its relevant agencies, private sector, regional and other development agencies who are keen on the implementation of YPS resolutions,

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and Sustaining Peace resolutions.

Therefore, Wakenya4YPS project was initiated to inform the development of a comprehensive NAP on Youth, Peace, and Security (YPS) in Kenya. It involves conducting consultative meetings across various counties in the country. These meetings bring together youth representatives, peacebuilders, government officials, civil society organizations, and other stakeholders to discuss YPS issues and develop a collaborative approach to peacebuilding, while also understanding the ongoing work at the county level to address issues of peace and security.

Each session includes presentations, group discussions, and participants get to share recommendations, leading to the identification of priority areas for inclusion in the NAP.



Bungoma County Consultations

OPERATING ENVIRONMENT

The coalition has successfully conducted 18 county consultations across Kenya, engaging with youth, youth leadership and other relevant stakeholders from the following counties: Meru, Tharaka Nithi, Tana River, Narok, Nakuru, Nyandarua, Makueni, Machakos, Kitui, Kirinyaga, Kilifi, Kericho, Embu, Busia, Bungoma, Bomet, Laikipia and Baringo.

A total of 200 participants have actively contributed to these consultations.

The operating environments varied across counties with each presenting unique challenges and opportunities related to youth, peace, and security. This is due to demographic, environmental, governance, security, economic, social, and cultural factors.

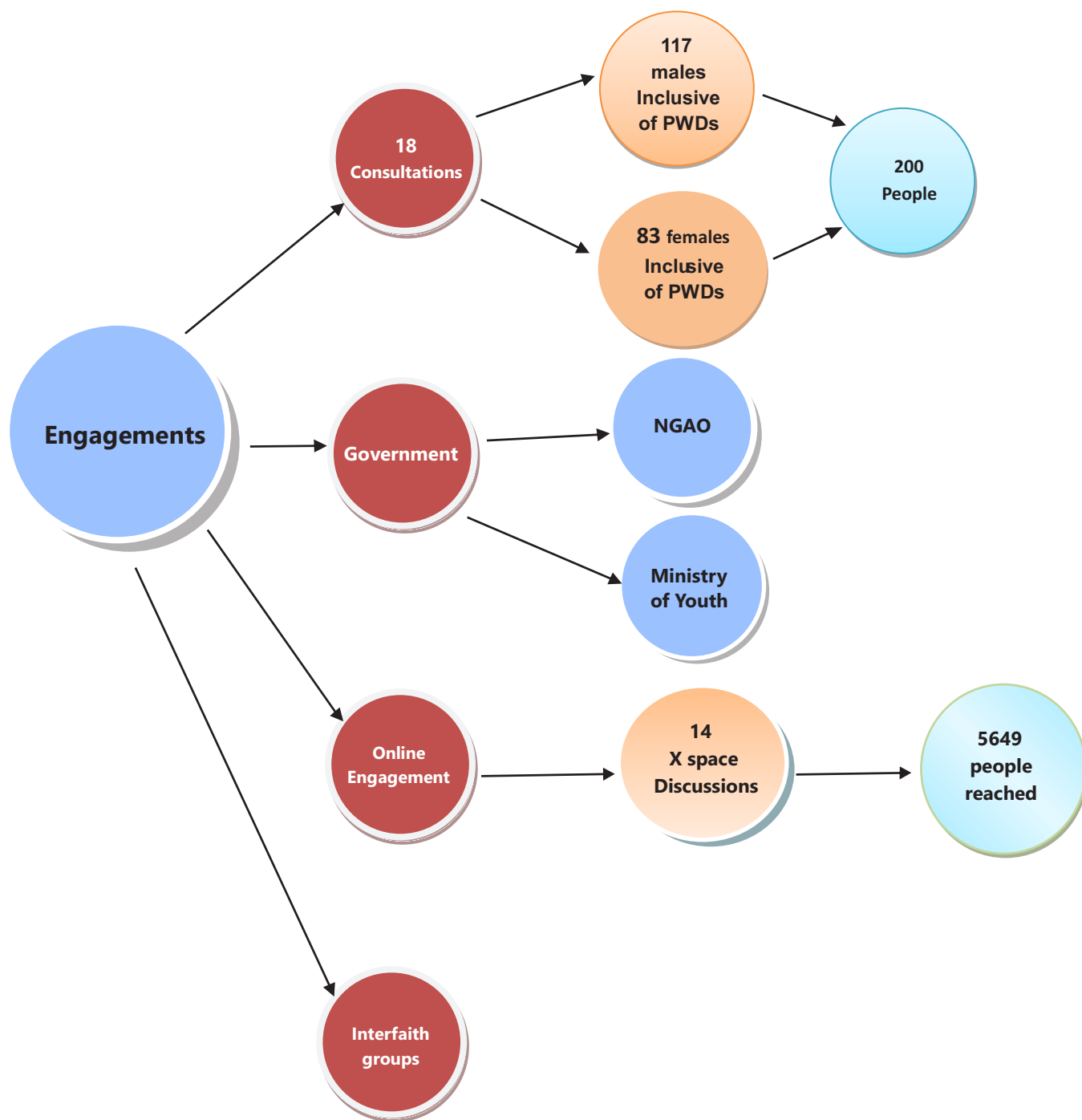


For instance;

- a) Governance challenges in Bungoma County including limited youth involvement in policy formation, insufficient legal frameworks, and administrative hurdles.
- b) High rates of insecurity coupled with unresolved violence cases like gender-based violence in Kitui County, reflect gaps in justice and protection systems.
- c) High rates of unemployment despite a well-educated youth population experienced in Embu County.
- d) High rates of insecurity; and cultural practices and beliefs such as FGM in Baringo County hinders active participation by the youth.
- e) Power dynamics between youth and elders in Nyandarua County hinders youth participation.
- f) Micro managed public participation forums in counties like Bomet.

While political instability did not explicitly come up during our consultations in these counties; however, the presence of bureaucratic hurdles and administrative challenges suggests underlying governance issues that could potentially lead to instability if not addressed by the key stakeholders.

SUMMARY OF RESULTS BASED ON THE OUTPUTS



PROJECT RESULTS AND ACHIEVEMENTS BETWEEN JANUARY & MAY 2024

In the section, we highlight key activities, and impacts achieved during the reporting period. The results are based on a predetermined outputs and outcomes matrix.

Outcome 1: YPS actors create and sustain regional and national Youth inclusive networks that coordinate and promote action for effective implementation of the YPS agenda.

Output 1.1

A comprehensive database of youth-led and youth-serving organizations and activities working on Youth, Peace and Security in all 47 counties in Kenya

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	STATUS
Through a baseline survey, we identified and compiled a list of potential youth-led and youth-serving organizations across all 47 counties in Kenya.	Have a total of 250 organizations fully registered with the coalition	226 organizations in 25 counties have been reached & registered	Ongoing
We developed outreach strategies to effectively engage with these organizations.	Frequent emails sharing opportunities and communications to members	More youth groups have been getting opportunities for training, conferences, and jobs	
Facilitated an online information session.	Frequent online and offline engagement through the consultations	More people are reaching out wanting to join the coalition and engage	
Created a WhatsApp group and mailing list for continuous communication and engagement	Major source of communications to the coalition members	Frequent and real time conversations and discussions. Members also get to ask questions and be answered	
The coalition has held several stakeholders' engagement with government and key actors.		Bilateral talks with National Cohesion and integration Commission (NCIC) There is progress (albeit slow) on Buy in on the YPS agenda among Government officials.	Ongoing

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	STATUS
		Meeting with the Youngest Deputy Governor of Murang'a county in Kenya Mr. Stephen Munania. Ministry of Youth and Interior Through the National Security Council (NSC) reached A letter written to the ministry of foreign affairs, copying the attorney General, ministry of interior and Youth	
Output 1.2: County Consultative Meetings on YPS			
County consultative meetings to be held, bringing together youth and other actors working in the YPS across different counties.	At least 1,100 YPS actors (organizations and individuals) directly reached through consultative meetings. 47 county consultative meetings	• 18 Consultative Meeting held • 200 YPS actors have been directly reached through the consultative meetings in their counties • 16 Organizations got to co-host the consultations in the counties • Diverse representation of participants in the consultancies.	Ongoing.



Kericho County Consultations

Outcome 2: Best practices and lessons learned from the advocacy practices and lessons learned from the advocacy and implementation of the YPS agenda are documented, disseminated, and inspire broader and more effective implementation at all levels.

Output 2.1: Media and Social Media Campaigns on YPS

ACTIVITIES	TARGET	ACHIEVEMENT	STATUS
Media engagement (Radio)	At least 500,000 reached by the end of the project.	2 radio interviews with Mwenge FM, community radio from Tharaka Nithi and North Rift Radio in West Pokot	Ongoing
We have been able to hold X space discussions	At least 11 radio programs on YPS in different counties by the end of the project At least 8 X (Twitter) Spaces on YPS	14 X spaces with a total of 5649 X users (people) being reached.	
Development and management of Website	A functional website	An up-to-date website (www.kcyps.org) reporting 200 impressions on a weekly basis.	

ASSESSMENT OF THE HUMAN RIGHTS SITUATION, COMPLIANCE WITH HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES, AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE CROSS-CUTTING OBJECTIVES (GENDER EQUALITY, NON-DISCRIMINATION, CLIMATE RESILIENCE, AND LOW EMISSION DEVELOPMENT.

In examining the human rights situation, most of the counties we interacted with face challenges such as insecurity, corruption, and limited access to justice, as evidenced by high rates of unresolved violence cases and bureaucratic hurdles hindering effective governance. These issues underscore the importance of ensuring the protection and promotion of human rights, particularly for vulnerable groups such as youth.

Although there are some efforts in addressing issues such as gender-based violence and cultural practices like FGM in regard to compliance with human rights principles, there is still significant gaps, including limited resources and insufficient legal frameworks impeding the full realization of human rights for all individuals within these counties visited.

Some noticeable strides are being made in implementing cross-cutting objectives. There are a number of initiatives aimed at promoting gender equality and addressing climate resilience challenges like alternative farming (instead of reliance on livestock, beekeeping uptake is high in pastoralist communities), although more concerted efforts are needed to ensure meaningful progress in these areas.

Notably, the operating environment presents opportunities for enhancing human rights, gender equality, and sustainable development through targeted interventions and improved governance mechanisms.

DEVIATIONS AND REASONS FOR DEVIATIONS FROM THE PROJECT PLANS

There were no major deviations from the project plan, with any deviations typically stemming from logistical or contextual factors unique to each county. However, some consultations experienced adjustments due to unforeseen circumstances, such as weather conditions like the heavy rainfall impacting meeting schedules in counties like Kirinyaga, Embu, and Baringo. Other consultations had to be rescheduled.

INFLUENCE OF THE DEVIATIONS ON THE PROJECT IMPLEMENTATION AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE OUTPUTS.

The minor adjustments made did not significantly impact project implementation or the achievement of outputs. The project team successfully adapted to ensure that all stakeholders had the opportunity to participate, maintaining the project's overall effectiveness and goals.

LESSONS LEARNED

The 18 county consultations have provided several key insights and valuable lessons that can inform the second phase of engagements. These lessons underscore the importance of adaptability, inclusivity, and collaboration in achieving project goals effectively.

1

- High youth interest in YPS topics necessitates continued engagement efforts to ensure broad base participation, which is crucial for gathering diverse perspectives and insights.

2

- Flexible strategies and tailored approaches specific to each county's context are needed to address unpredictable challenges, enhancing effectiveness and relevance.

3

- Collaboration among diverse stakeholders is essential for effective consultative meetings.

4

- There is a need to have more capacity building sessions for government officials on YPS as majority are not aware of the agenda.



Nakuru County Consultations

CONCLUSION

The YPS County Consultations Project successfully gathered valuable insight from stakeholders across Kenya. The information collected will be instrumental in developing the NAP that addresses the specific needs and priorities of Kenyan Youth in relation to Peace and Security. The project laid the foundation for a more inclusive and collaborative approach to addressing Youth, Peace, and Security challenges in Kenya. Each county visited filled a report that will be collated to produce a national report.



Kilifi County Consultations



Baringo County Consultation



Meru County Consultation



Machakos County Consultation

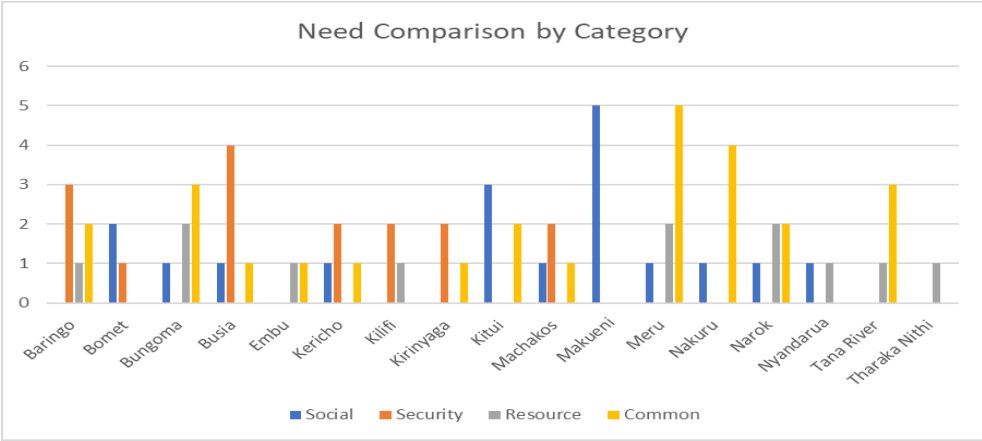
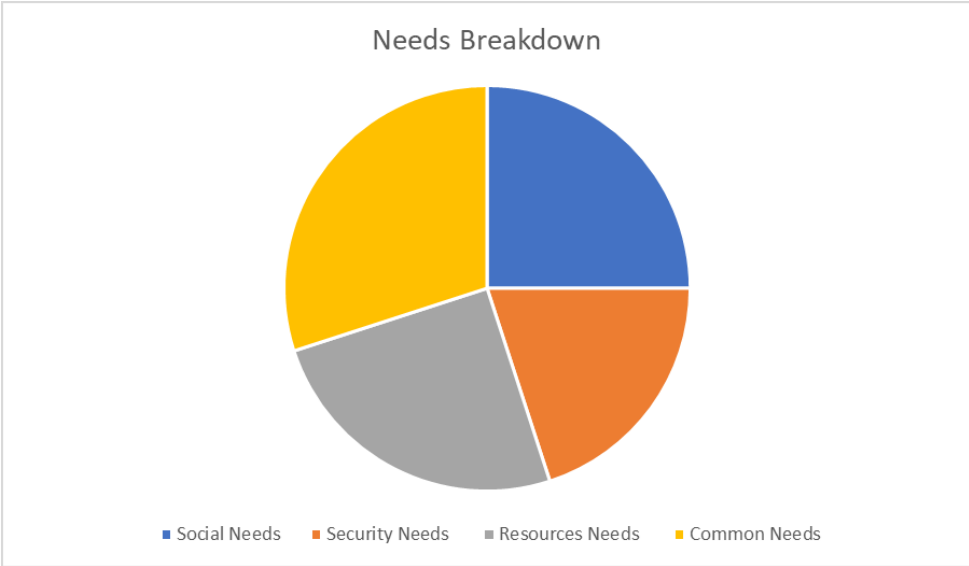
APPENDIX 1

Needs Assessment per County

COUNTY	PEACE AND SECURITY-RELATED NEEDS
Bomet	• Drug abuse, gambling, and malnutrition among youth. • Prevalence of married women circumcision in specific areas. • Lack of inclusive public participation.
Kilifi	• More resources to support youth-led organizations and peacebuilding initiatives. • Implementation of preventive measures to address insecurities and negative effect on youth.
Kirinyaga	• Improvement of youth involvement in the County government to give them a voice. • Address the high insecurity rates.
Tharaka Nithi	• Provision of financial and logistical support to youth organizations for effective mobilization and engagement.
Tana River	• Youth participation in community decision-making processes to ensure their voices are heard. • Allocation of resources specifically for youth development programs and initiatives. • Involve youth in the formulation and implementation of youth policies. • Youth apathy towards civic engagement by creating opportunities for meaningful participation.
Nyandarua	• Bureaucratic hurdles that hinder effective governance and youth participation. • Budget allocation for youth mobilization and engagement activities to overcome financial constraints.
Narok	• Development of programs to address ethnic tensions and promote reconciliation. • Establishment of mentorship programs to support young leaders and build capacity. • Education of elders on incorporating peacebuilding practices into traditional conflict resolution methods. • Counteraction of the negative impact of social media hate speech by promoting responsible online communication. • Establishment of youth empowerment centers to provide resources and support for young people.

Makueni	• Youth empowerment and representation. • Lack of a platform for youth to participate in decision-making processes. • Inadequate youth representation in government and other institutions. • Need for constitutional reforms to prioritize youth rights and interests. • Absence of dedicated resources and policies for youth development at the county level.
Kericho	• Devolution of security functions and establish a peace directorate within the county. • Address ongoing conflicts in Sondu and Kericho, acknowledging the role of youth. • Promotion of collaboration among partners to ensure timely communication of efforts in peacebuilding initiatives. • Integration of clear peace messaging into youth activities like football tournaments.
Laikipia	• Ensure inclusivity • Ensure timely response towards Banditry attacks. • Poor infrastructures that limits businesses and development of small centers within the communities. • High rate of illiteracy among young people. • Cultural beliefs centered around youths
Baringo	• Ensure proper peace messaging for all football tournaments. • Address donor influence in funding initiatives. • Provision of small capital to start businesses and mentorship for trained youth. • Foster inclusivity in peacebuilding meetings. • Address security concerns in Kiati.
Bungoma	• Enactment of the Bungoma Youth policy and guidelines. • Mapping stakeholders for coordination and collaboration • Establishment of a legal framework to guide youth programs and projects. • Increment in stakeholder engagement within the security sector • Raise public awareness about county programs and projects. • Development of clear follow-up mechanisms for youth disengagement. • Ensuring sustainable implementation of youth engagement and disengagement strategies.

Embu	• Educating communities on sustainable water management practices. • Encourage greater youth participation in policy formulation through youth councils or advisory boards.
Kitui	• Address and carry out sensitization campaigns on insecurity challenges, including cattle rustling, domestic violence, and gender-based violence. • Improve response mechanisms in addressing insecurity. • Provide coaching and capacity-building programs for youth participation in YPS initiatives.
Busia	• Address insecurity challenges, including cattle rustling, domestic violence, and gender-based violence (GBV). • Increment of government-led initiatives. • Establishment of reintegration centers. • Strengthen law enforcement efforts. • Addressing substance abuse among youth. • Creation of a network of peacebuilders.
Machakos	• Establish a peace directorate within the county. • Address ongoing conflicts in Sondu and Kericho, acknowledging the role of youth. • Promoting collaboration among partners to avoid duplication of efforts in peacebuilding initiatives. • Address the continued practice of Female Genital Mutilation (FGM), particularly among married women. • Integrate clear peace messaging into youth activities like football tournaments.
Nakuru	• Addressing profiling of youths by law enforcement and the community. • Increase access to accurate information for youth. • Integrating tools and methods to identify and respond to radicalization in educational institutions. • Updating Community Health Promoters reporting templates to include PCVE • Addressing conflict of interest among CSOs working on GBV (Gender-Based Violence) cluster activities. • Improving time management for monitoring and evaluation of projects.
Meru	• Enhanced youth Representation. • Establishing rehabilitation facilities. • Lack of government support for innovation. • Promote accountability mechanism • Improve economic literacy among the youth



Kirinyaga County Consultations

APPENDIX TWO

Recommendations

Based on the findings from the county consultations, these are some of the recommendations that were shared by the youth.

a) Enhancement of Youth Participation and Representation:

- Increase youth representation in decision-making processes
- Develop youth leadership programs that offer mentorship and equip youth with the knowledge and skills to effectively participate in the YPS process.
- Create safe spaces for youth engagement where they can freely express themselves, share ideas, and contribute to peace and security efforts.
- More government buy in and commitment to the YPS agenda

b) Strengthen Resource Allocation for Youth Development:

- Increase budgetary allocation for youth programs to support youth-led initiatives and empowerment programs.
- Facilitate access to funding opportunities such as grants and scholarships to support youth work.
- Invest in capacity building through training programs and workshops on conflict resolution, peacebuilding skills, and project management.

c) Foster Collaboration and Partnerships:

- Strengthen partnerships between the government and private sector to leverage expertise, resources, and reach a wider audience for YPS efforts.
- Promote inter-county knowledge sharing for YPS actors and youth organizations to share best practices and learn from each other's experiences.
- Engage traditional and community leaders to leverage their influence in promoting peacebuilding and resolving local challenges.

d) Address Specific County Needs:

- Develop targeted interventions tailored to address specific peace and security challenges faced by each county, such as ethnic tensions in Narok and resource limitations in Tana River.
- Promote inclusion and address discrimination by ensuring the NAP considers the needs of marginalized youth groups and promotes inclusive strategies for peacebuilding.
- Conduct further research to understand the root causes of youth involvement in crime and violence in specific counties to develop effective prevention strategies.

e) Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Establish clear indicators for success with measurable metrics to track the progress and impact of the NAP on YPS, ensuring accountability and effectiveness.
- Develop a monitoring and evaluation framework to regularly assess the NAP and make necessary adjustments.
- Promote transparency and stakeholder engagement by sharing findings and involving stakeholders in continuous improvement efforts.

APPENDIX 3

Online Engagement

X Space Discussions

Embracing the United Nations Security Council Resolution 2250 and its subsequent Resolutions requires highlighting action areas that position youths as critical actors in its success.

KCYPS launched online engagements called YPS Fridays to promote the YPS Agenda in Kenya. These engagements have been taking place on Zoom and X-space, starting on April 14, 2023, with the day of the week later changed to Thursday to increase participation at members' request. The discussions have been dynamic, featuring speakers who explored the YPS mandate and its five action areas.

The topics were designed to form a key component on youth infrastructure for social cohesion and security in Kenya through:

Awareness raising on action areas on UNSCR 2250.

Mobilization of youth groups and CSOs.

Continuous community involvement.

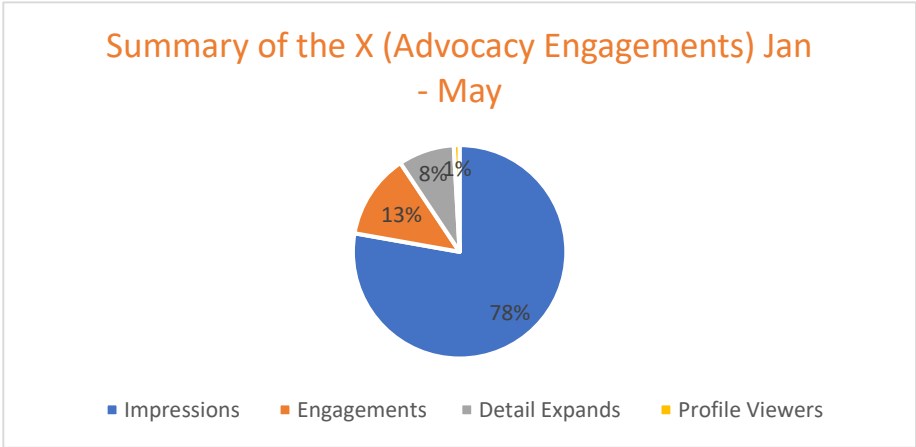
Capacity building and Trainings.

Supporting tools for Youth, Peace and Security.

DATE	THEME	No. Of listeners
14/04/2023	Unpacking Peace & Security Status In Kenya	239
26/05/2023	Religion, Peace and Security Matters in Kenya	301
2/06/2023	The Effects of The Finance Bill 2023 on Youth in Kenya	316
16/06/2023	Youth Leadership in Climate Action	350
9/02/2024	Importance of Addressing Youth Related Issues in Peace and Security	312
15/02/2024	Youth Voices on the Surge In Femicide Cases in Kenya	304
22/02/2024	Youth Demographics and their Impact on Security	360
29/02/2024	Regional Variations on Youth Challenges and Opportunities	378
7/03/2024	IWD 2024- Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress	1229
14/03/2024	Radicalization and Extremism Among Youths	442
21/ 03/2024	Zoom: Seeds of Change: The Nexus Between Impact Investing and Youth- Led Peace-Building	28
28/03/2024	Role Of Youths In Peacebuilding	612
11/04/2024	Grassroot Initiatives & Community Involvement In Peacebuilding	360
9/05/2024	Youth-Led Disaster Relief Efforts	418

KCYPS ANALYTICS

Twitter Analytics



Impressions – 4,100

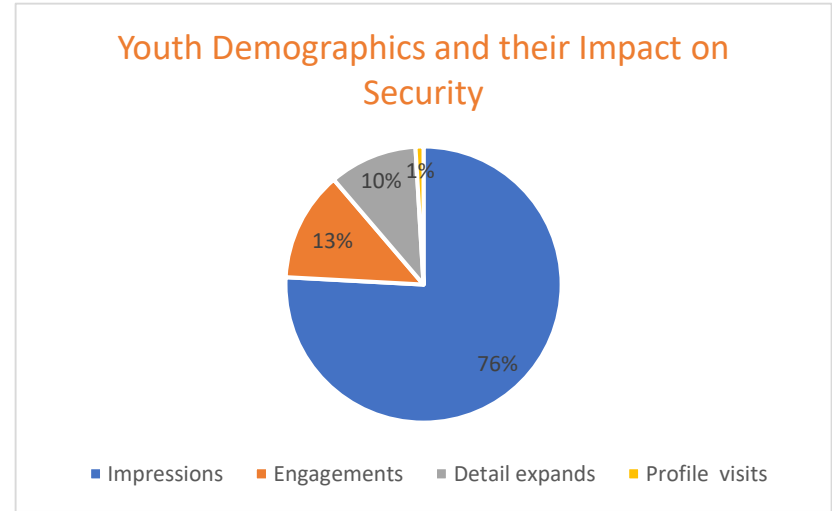
Engagements – 678

Detail expands – 447

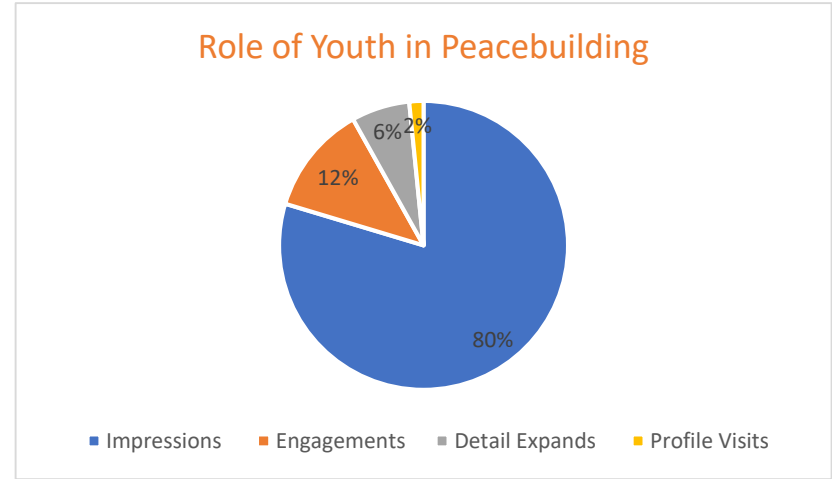
Profile views - 46

Key monthly Engagements

February X space

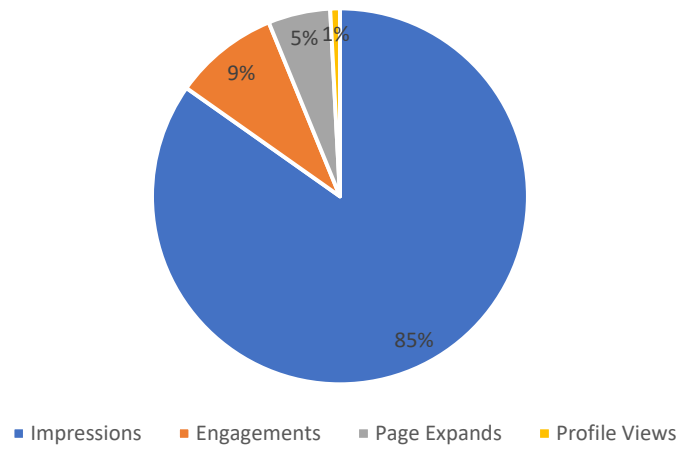


March X Space



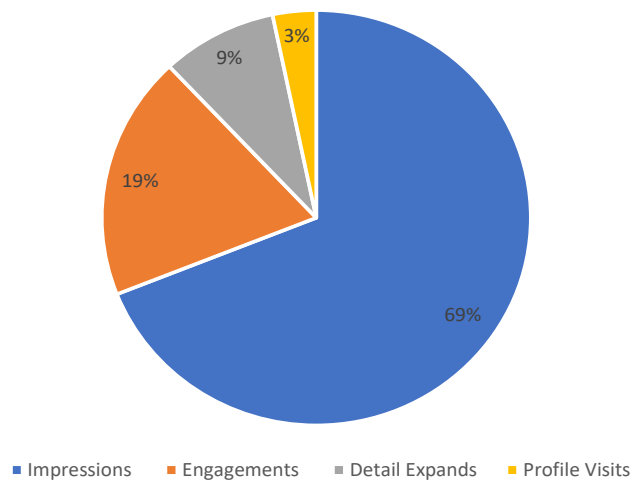
April X space

Grassroots Initiatives and Community Involvement in Peacebuilding



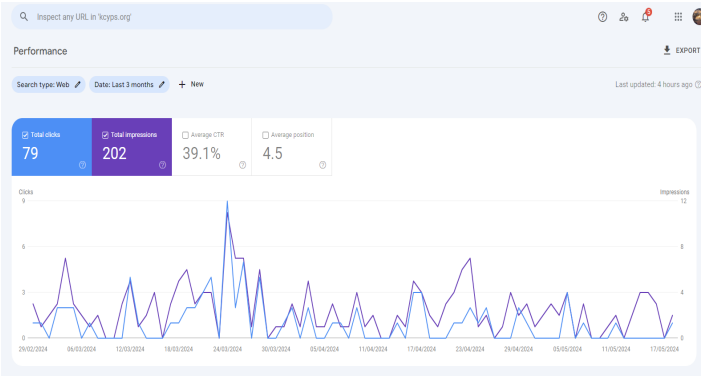
May X Space

Youth-Led Disaster Relief Efforts

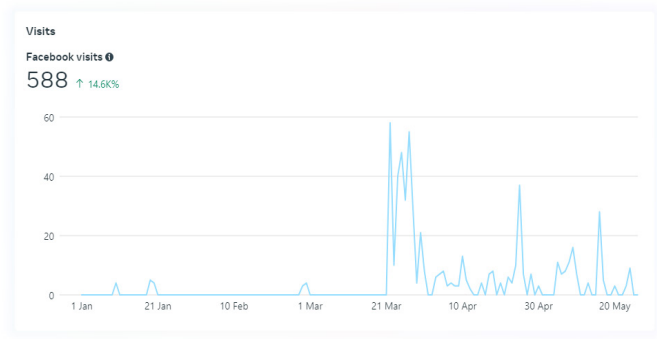
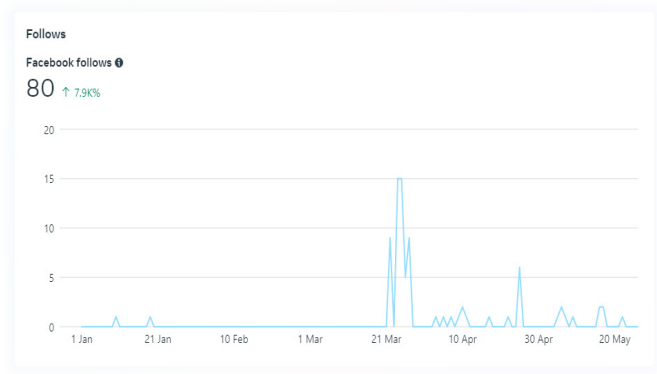


Website Analytics

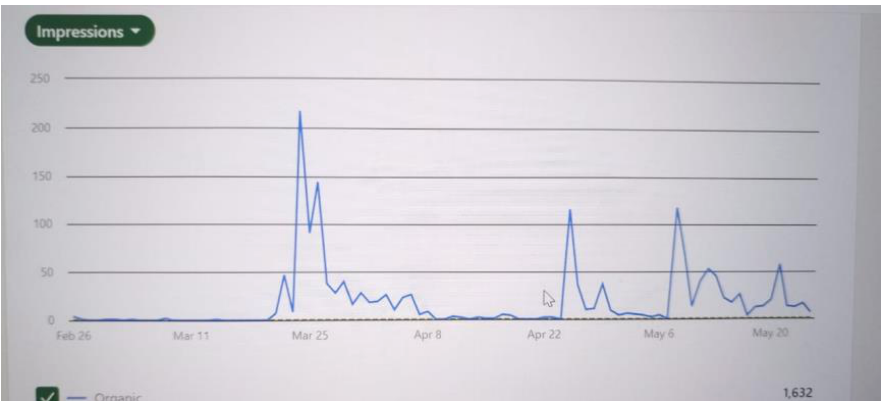
QUERIES	PAGES	COUNTRIES	DEVICES	SEARCH APPEARANCE	DATES
Top queries					
				↓ Clicks	Impressions
kenya coalition on youth peace and security				11	18
kcpss				3	30
kenya coalition				0	4
coalition security				0	2
unsystem				0	1
youth for peace				0	1
kcpss				0	1
kenya youth organization				0	1



Facebook engagement between January and May 2024



LinkedIn engagement between January and May 2024





Kenya Coalition on Youth,
Peace and Security

Email: info@kcyps.org

Website: [www. kcyps.org](http://www.kcyps.org)