



Kakamega Governor Wycliffe Oparanya and Governor Stephen Sang of Nandi County witnessed peace accords signed by communities in Kakamega and Nandi counties to end a border conflict during the International Peace Day 2020, Photo Credit: FHI 360

KENYA

SAFEGUARDING DEMOCRATIC SPACE IN KENYA

The Safeguarding Democratic Space in Kenya (SADES-K) activity partners with government institutions, civil society organizations (CSOs), and the media to strengthen the country's governance reform agenda and secure democratic gains enshrined in the 2010 Constitution. SADES-K has three main objectives: strengthen social and ethnic cohesion; protect civic and democratic space; and conduct regular monitoring of the Building Bridges to Unity Initiative's (BBI) national dialogue implementation process and outcomes. In addition, the activity facilitates data collection and tracking of citizen's views through public polling. The findings inform decisions on subsequent activities undertaken by the BBI and assists citizens and civil society in defining their engagement with government-led, cohesion, and reform initiatives.

OUR WORK

The SADES-K is grounded in a locally driven co-creation process with Kenyan stakeholders to further the national dialogue process under the Building Bridges to Unity Initiative, promote social and ethnic cohesion, protect civic and democratic space, and monitor the implementation of national conversations. The project is anchored around four pillars: co-creation, local ownership, adaptive programming, and sustainability.

STRENGTHEN AND REVISIT KENYA'S GOVERNANCE ARCHITECTURE

SADES-K provides grant and technical assistance to the BBI Task Force, and a range of grants to local CSOs to advance national dialogue on governance reform.

STRENGTHEN SOCIAL AND ETHNIC COHESION

SADES-K provides grants to support civil society initiatives to promote social and ethnic cohesion across Kenya.

PROTECT CIVIC AND DEMOCRATIC SPACE

SADES-K supports civil society initiatives to promote independent media and advocacy campaigns that focus on implementation of the Public Benefits Organizations (PBO) Act. SADES-K builds the capacity of local CSOs and media to improve their ability to deliver the results supported by SADES-K as well as prudently manage the resources allocated through the grants.

MONITOR NATIONAL CONVERSATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF OUTCOMES FOR ACCOUNTABILITY, LEARNING AND SCALE-UP

SADES-K supports research, and public opinion polling on the BBI process to inform decisions on subsequent BBI discourse and the reform agenda.

ACHIEVEMENTS

- Awarded 27 sub-grants to Kenyan organizations to facilitate community and national dialogue on reforms, protection of civic space and social and ethnic cohesion.
- Conducted Peace and reconciliation activities that have resulted in a total of 28 peace agreements or accords.
- Conducted two public opinion surveys on the BBI process and political economy analysis mapping out Movers and Shakers (power dynamics) of Kenya's economy, politics, and reforms. The findings informed the design of USAID/KEA CDCS, the new governance program, other sectoral programs, and SADES-K strategic programmatic shift.

BUDGET: \$6.35 Million

DURATION: 2018 – 2021

ACTIVITY LOCATIONS

Nationwide

IMPLEMENTING PARTNER

Family Health International (FHI 360)

KEY PARTNERS

Internews
BBI Task Force
University of Nairobi (Institute for Development Studies)

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