



Stawisha
Africa Initiative

Your growth, our concern

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2024 ANNUAL REPORT



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Misawa !!!

Jambo !!!

We invite you to explore our 2024 Annual Report. This report reflects upon a year marked by significant milestones, unforeseen challenges, and unwavering dedication.

Stawisha Africa Initiative shines a light in otherwise dimmer paths of our society, providing a platform for shared learning, shared opportunities and shared interests. We always endeavour to be change makers who walk the talk, that is why we 'STAWISHA' (Thrive).

As you delve into these pages, we express our profound gratitude to all who have contributed to the remarkable progress of the Stawisha Africa Initiative. 2024 has been a year of resilience, innovation, and impactful partnerships. Together, we have overcome obstacles, celebrated achievements, and consistently strived to make a lasting difference.

This report offers a glimpse into the transformative work undertaken by our dedicated team and the unwavering support of our generous partners. We believe that by sharing our journey, we can inspire continued engagement and foster a deeper understanding of the critical role each individual plays in empowering our communities

As we look into the future, we envision a greater engagement to address issues affecting children, adolescents, and youth such as child protection, reproductive health and rights information and services access, mental health, dignity restoration, digital literacy, and climate change.

We appreciate your support this year..... Lets make 2025 even greater.

Yours in service,

Dan Joshua Oduor,
Founder and Director
Stawisha Africa Initiative

ABOUT US

The Stawisha Africa Initiative, a dynamic youth-led and child-centered Non-Governmental Organization (NGO), was established and registered in Kenya under the Companies Act of 2015 in 2021. Operating within the vibrant Siaya County, Stawisha empowers rural communities by fostering transformative change within children, youth, and their families.

Through a deeply participatory approach, we meticulously identify and address critical development gaps within these communities. Stawisha cultivates an environment of collaborative action, where collective strengths and shared resources are harnessed to drive positive community growth. We actively facilitate partnerships, fostering a network of support that empowers individuals and strengthens the fabric of society. We identify with UN SDGs 1, 2,3,4,5,13 and 17



Our Vision

We envision a world where vulnerable youth and children are meaningfully engaged to reach their full potential to improve their lives.



Our Mission

Our mission is to improve the lives of the vulnerable children and youth by working with their families and identifying gaps to realize and gain sustainable development.

Our Core Values

We commit to the following core values in our work.

Teamwork-Stawisha Africa Initiative supports working together by combining the individual's strengths to achieve the results.

Integrity- We believe in a working environment where we act with honesty and honor without compromising the truth.

Empowerment- we aim to motivate our employees to proactively take the lead and deliver their utmost.

Professionalism-We strive to create a work environment that upholds career values and promotes professional growth

Our Thematic Areas

Education and Skills Development

Education Promotion through readership access, bridging digital divide, dignity restoration for needy students, skills training through apprenticeship and job access

Agriculture and environment

Building food secure society, encouraging proper nutrition, economic growth through agribusiness and climate justice related projects

Health and Wellness

Ensuring a healthy community by promoting access to SRH services & products, campaigning against teen pregnancy and gender based violence

Our Approach

The Stawisha Africa Initiative is committed to a participatory approach that inspires young people and their families to take control of their lives. The organization empowers them to actively engage in all activities, provide input, negotiate implementation options and processes, and ultimately take responsibility for driving the program's progress and participating in its activities.

Our Models

Power Analysis Model

The Power Analysis Model is designed to help girls understand power dynamics in their everyday lives by sharing their experiences. The model applies five tools, which are Girls and Power, Girls and their Bodies, Girls and their Confidence, Girls and Money, and Girls and their Spaces. These tools provide a practical way to examine the reality of girls' lives and start a conversation about how we can empower them to create a better reality

Safe space model

A safe space is a place where individuals feel safe, supported, and empowered to share their experiences, challenges, and best practices. At Stawisha, we have adopted the safe space model to connect with young mothers and their children. The safe space model allows us to create a supportive and nurturing environment where we address the unique needs and challenges

of young mothers. These include caring for themselves and their children, managing their menstrual hygiene, developing life skills, and more. Within our safe space, we prioritize building strong bonds and relationships among our beneficiaries. We believe that this safe and supportive environment is essential for their growth and success

Sports for social change Model

Stawisha has embraced the Sports for Social Change model, which leverages the transformative potential of sports to tackle social issues, promote positive values, and contribute to the overall development of young people. This model provides a platform for personal growth, community development, and positive social change.



Stawisha Africa Initiative Management

Stawisha Management Board comprise of 7 Directors. The Board has got two sub committees; a) Finance / Audit / Risk/ Operations Sub-Committee b) Program / Partnership Network Sub-Committee.

Directors



Mrs. Lucy M Njoroge
Board Chair Person



Mr Edwin Obiero
Board Treasurer



Mr Martin Omedo
Board Member - MEL



Ritah Ng'wono
Board Secretary



Dr Rhoda Auni
Board Member - Prgrm



Adv. Victor Were
Board Member - Legal



Dan Joshua Oduor
Executive Director



Projects realized within the scope of our programs

Sexual Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR) Project

Jihusishe Nasi Project

Project Background

This was a 1 year project funded by Hivos under Regional SRHR fund with the aim to increase access to appropriate SRHR information and services for adolescent girls and young mothers between 10-24 years within South East Alego ward by October 2024.

The Jihusishe Nasi SRHR project recognizes the importance of providing age-appropriate information that considers the developmental stages, educational backgrounds, and cultural contexts of adolescent girls and young mothers. This is to ensure that the SRHR information is tailored towards relevant, comprehensible, and empowering information for adolescent girls and young mothers.

Project activities included

- Entry meetings with stakeholders at high and low levels
- Baseline surveys on levels of SRHR awareness among Adolescent Girls and Young Women (AGYW)
- Capacity strengthening of healthcare promoters
- Community sensitization and engagement forums
- Peer-to-peer learning sessions
- Community youth café forums

Project Impact

- Increased adolescent's uptake of services and products attributed change by CHP a contributed factor.
- Parents supporting AGYW access SRHR services
- Stakeholders supporting SRHR services and products access for AGYW.



At the 7th Regional SRHR conference with partners and Hivos Management team in Mombasa Kenya





Regional conference

Achievements

- Strong stakeholders engagement, taking part in County Youth policy formulation.
- Integration of theater to advocate for SRHR awareness (We established drama club made up of teen moms)
- Successful male involvement in SRHR conversations, initially the men were never involved in the conversations.
- Meeting and surpassing project objective indicators (stakeholders engaged, Adolescents reached with SRHR info,etc)
- Establishment of 6 safe spaces where girls converge for Cafe discussions on SRHR
- Mainstreaming SRHR and Technology, 40 adolescents from the safe spaces enrolled and trained and certified in ICT.Now able to use social media proactively to reach out to fellow young adolescents on SRHR services and products.

Peer to peer forum

Other Projec gains

- Enhancing our organization systems through Organization support initiatives by Hivos.
- Participating in the regional SRHR conferences and sharing lived in stories from our rural Western Kenya program area.
- Exchange learning opportunities between Stawisha and East Visionary



Adolescent Girls Power Program (AGPP)

For Young Mothers for their wellbeing

Project Background

For Young Mothers For their wellbeing is a program supported by the Children's Rights and Violence Prevention Fund (CRVFP), designed to empower adolescent girls by enabling them to change the societal structures that deprive them of choice and power. The project is being implemented through a cluster partnership with Stawisha being one of the partner organizations operating in Kenya as part of the Siaya Cluster.

This is a three year project that was launched in October 2024. The project team have covered first quarter so far, subsequent quarters will be covered in 2025 all through to 2027

Expected project outcoms

- Increased partnership and participation of community stakeholders in supporting the wellbeing of young mothers and their children in Siaya.
- Improved livelihood, health, and social security for young mothers and their children in Siaya.
- Increased capacity and skills of young mothers to initiate and successfully manage income-generating activities for better access to income to support themselves
- Improved capacity and self-awareness of the young mothers to make informed decisions on their personal lives and that of their children.



Project Launch, stakeholders group photo



- Duty bearers in Siaya County formulate, approve, and implement policies, legislations and programs that promote the wellbeing of children and young mothers.
- Improved capacity of Siaya cluster organizations to develop, implement and monitor sustainable programs in Siaya County



CRVPF Uganda Project team lead Ms.Salmah Babu giving her insight during the project launch

Young mothers taking part in the discussion during project launch.



Intergenerational dialogue forum at Stawisha safe space

PISCCA DECID'HER

She Deserves Her Rights and Skill

Project Background

This was a partnership project supported by the French Embassy in Kenya and led by the Siaya Muungano Network where Stawisha Africa Initiative and African Women's Economic Policy Nucleus Kenya (AWEPON) were implementing partners. The project title "She Deserves Her Rights and Skills" was anchored on to mount a coherent and coordinated approach to support adolescent girls and young women in the rural parts of Siaya to reach their potential. The project was targeting AGYW between the ages of 12-30 in the Gem, Alego, and Ugunja sub Counties

Project outcomes included;

1. Adolescent girls and young women were better informed; they are now able to access reproductive health services and make healthy choices regarding their sexuality.
2. Adolescent girls and young women have a voice, abilities, choice and they enjoy equal rights in an environment free from gender-based violence.
3. Young women have increased access to vocational skills and opportunities for creation of decent jobs in the community for improved income.



Cake cutting during Digital literacy Graduation, Stawisha trained 40 girls under this project



Media interview during the graduation

Program Based Highlights in 2023

Library access

Stawisha Africa Initiative provides two readership access platforms. Physical and online library for young people who are not able to access our physical library and also when they need resources that are not within our physical library. Over the year 2024 we have shared over 1000 books and resources through our online library platform. This was made possible through our partnership with 4BM.

To join Stawisha
online library scan
QR



Book and computer library

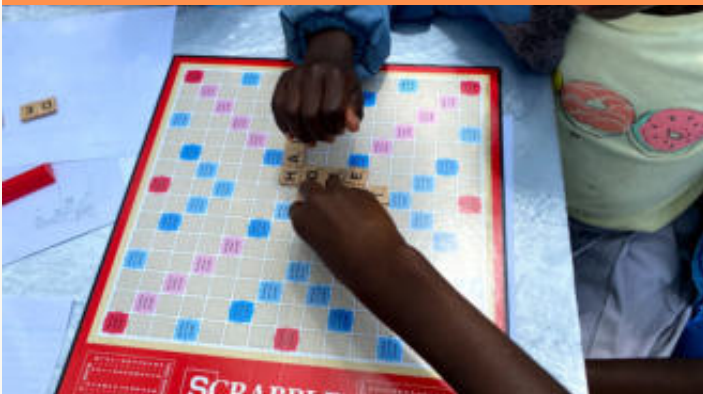
Our physical library also received a boost with well-wishers supporting us to get books on cross-cutting topics. Our library is stocked with educational games that enhance holistic growth of young people.

Computer class in session



Scrabble Kenya Workshop

Holiday with a difference..... Stawisha Africa Initiative working in partnership with Scrabble Kenya conducted a three day workshop for Stawisha youth and young c



Technik ohne Grenzen e.V. (TeoG) partner support



In March 2024 we launched Digital literacy project at Stawisha. The project is aimed at bridging the digital divide in rural Western Kenya, Siaya County. The project was made possible through the generous donation of our partners; Technology Without Borders Germany (TeoG). TeoG donated laptops and computer room furniture that the students will be using during the classes. Since project inception in March we have graduated 86 students, majority of these students have been young mothers who didn't get a chance to complete their schooling due to early pregnancy.



Above, media coverage during project launch

Partnership for good, SDG- Goal 17



United Nations Civil Society conference May 2024.

Stawisha took part in the 1st UN CSO conference In Africa. This was a networking platform where we showcased our work and learned from other civil societies. Over 2000 participants took part in the conference.

United Nations Animal Welfare conference

Stawisha took part in the conference as moderators. This platform did shine a light on the environment intervention work that Stawisha is undertaking



Siaya Girls Assembly Launch.

In Partnership with other Civil Society organizations in Siaya County, we took part in launching a powerful girls assembly. First of its kind giving adolescent girls and young women a chance to voice their opinions on social issues affecting them

Organization Development training / Partner learning

We had a chance to meet a number of development partners from across Kenya and the region working in the reproductive health space.



Lessons Learnt

1. Community-driven interventions are critical to empowering community members to effectively promote their engagement and drive social impact.
2. It is necessary to consider a holistic approach to male involvement within the targeted interventions in addressing issues such as health, well-being, skill training and general community support.
3. A safe space model is a significant approach to creating a supportive and empowering environment that contributes to the overall well-being and success of beneficiaries such as young women and their children.
4. Strengthening organization capacity and building learning opportunities enhances effective performance.
5. By combining diverse expertise, skills, and resources, local non profit organizations can leverage on each other's strengths to achieve greater impact than they could individually.
6. Networking creates a platform to unlearn and re-learn community development best practice

Finally

Our heartfelt gratitude to those who have made our year a success even in the little ways. We are immensely grateful for the accomplishments detailed in this year's annual report. Together with our dedicated staff, volunteers, donors, and partners, we have made significant strides in advancing our mission and impacting the lives of those we serve within Siaya County.

Reflecting on 2024, we are cognisant of the existing challenges within our various communities. We must join hands to combat the various social injustice to create a better world for all of us. We are excited about the opportunities ahead, we are dedicated and determined to impact more, engage more and together change our story positively.

Happy New Year 2025



Our partners



African Population and Health Research Center



Individual Supporters -

- Mukesh Patel
- Harish Patel

