# Table of Contents

CONTENTS........................................................................................................................ 0

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS ..................................................................................... 0

TABLE OF FIGURES .......................................................................................................... 1

1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY ............................................................................................... 2

2.0 MESSAGE FROM THE CEO ......................................................................................... 4

3.0 CEDGG: PROFILE, MISSION STATEMENT & PROJECT REPORTS ....................... 6
   3.1 CEDGG: A BRIEF HISTORY ....................................................................................... 6
   3.2 THE MISSION STATEMENT ...................................................................................... 6
       3.2.1 Vision .................................................................................................................. 6
       3.2.2 Mission ............................................................................................................... 6
       3.2.3 Our Motto: .......................................................................................................... 6
       3.2.4 Core Values ....................................................................................................... 7
   3.3 KEY RESULT AREAS (KRAs) AND PROJECT REPORTS FOR 2014 ................... 7
       3.3.1 KEY RESULT AREA I: The Governance and Devolution Programme .......... 8
       3.3.2 KEY RESULT AREA II: Human Rights and Access to Justice Programme .... 10
       3.3.3 KEY RESULT AREA III: Partnership, Networking and Knowledge Management Programme ........................................................................................................... 11
       3.3.4 KEY RESULT AREA IV: Organisational Development Programme ............... 12
       A Transitionary Overview ........................................................................................... 13

4.0 PROGRAM IMPACTS REPORT: SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES ....................... 14
   6.1 Lessons Learnt ............................................................................................................ 23
   6.2 Looking Forward to 2015/2016 ................................................................................. 25
**ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
<th>Full Form</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>BACSOF</td>
<td>Baringo County Civil Society Forum</td>
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<td>CDF</td>
<td>Constituency Development Fund</td>
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<td>CEDGG</td>
<td>Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance</td>
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<td>CRECO</td>
<td>Constitution and Reform Education Consortium</td>
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<td>CSOs</td>
<td>Civil Society Organisations</td>
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<td>DAP</td>
<td>Drivers of Accountability</td>
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<td>GIZ</td>
<td>Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit</td>
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<td>IDPs</td>
<td>Internally Displaced Persons</td>
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<td>KRA</td>
<td>Key Result Area</td>
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<td>PACODEO</td>
<td>Pastoralists Community Development Organization</td>
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<tr>
<td>PLWHIV/AIDS</td>
<td>People Living with HIV&amp;AIDS</td>
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<td>PWDs</td>
<td>People with Disabilities</td>
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<td>TISA</td>
<td>The Institute of Social Accountability</td>
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<td>Trainers of Trainers</td>
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# TABLE OF FIGURES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Figure</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Figure 1</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 2</td>
<td>22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Figure 3</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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1.0 EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This year’s Annual Report is answering a very important question that CEDGG seeks to concretise as part of its mission i.e. whether the capacity of marginalised and vulnerable communities in Kenya to demand, adopt and implement sustainable best practices in democratic governance can be developed. As a matter of fact, this is CEDGG’s ultimate goal. In this regard, this report indicates progressive realisation of this question. It combines important\(^1\) attained project activities, with key outputs, outcomes and important observed impacts to argue that CEDGG’s investments through donor support, volunteer, creativity and sacrifice from various players was a success.

Further, this report utilises a results-oriented structure which highlights all important activities carried out and importantly arguments all key results realised as a result of implementation of certain projects. The report’s significant milestones realised during the period which includes:

- Citizens successfully mobilised and participated in 2014/2015 county planning budgets and other awareness campaigns
- Successful Fundraising and improved CEDGG’s visibility
- CEDGG succeeded in sustainably engaging county government and CDF officials
- Integration of marginalized and vulnerable groups’ needs in the County Budget and Development plans, which is indicated by number of special projects and programmes in the Budget targeting these groups.
- Enhanced Citizen Vigilance in the management of County Affairs.

Furthermore, during the period under review the activities carried out include community awareness and civic engagement fora; radio talk shows and media engagements, which proved to be quite effective as outreach strategies; extensive social audit evaluations which provided invaluable feedback to the county governments and other stakeholders; CSOs, private sector and other stakeholders mobilised to take action on issues related to the marginalised; and extensive engagement activities with the county governments concerned, which, as a result are now taking issues of the vulnerable, the marginalised and the community in general more seriously.

\(^1\)
As a result of these activities, this report concludes that a tremendous impact, especially in terms of change of perception, change of policy and approach to development...was realised.

The report concludes with three important sections: The antepenultimate section introduces a new way of reporting in the organization. The section maps out and analyses through tabulation different types and composition of participants that were directly reached via various fora. Besides, the penultimate section highlights critical challenges simultaneously offering possible interventions in “lessons learnt. Recommendations for sustained funding from our donors, attracting new donors, strengthening beneficial existing partnerships and targeting county government officials are some of the key highlights under lessons learnt. Additionally, this section forecasts CEDGG’s future by highlighting on-going projects (2015/2016). Finally, the last section narrates important and necessary moments of inspiration which occurred during implementation. This has been referred to as “the success stories” section.
2.0 MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

This is the second year since we embarked on the implementation of our current strategic plan (2013-2017). Successful implementation of the Strategic Plan, required CEDGG to pursue a change management process so as to attain a "state of the art implementation Capacity" in the form of institutionalization of a SMART Performance Monitoring framework (indicators) and a vibrant, enabling and focused governance function.

A consultative and participatory process was adopted to develop this annual report through interview with senior management staff and a critical analysis of various project evaluation and progress reports during the year 2014. The purpose of this report is to enable the organization to assess its effectiveness in addressing the felt needs of the marginalized and vulnerable groups and communities who constitute its primary target groups. Secondly, the report forms the logical basis for effectively monitoring and evaluating the results of our efforts during the year.

The year 2014 also marks the completion and start of the county government’s first and second budget for the period i.e. 2013/2014 and 2014/2015 respectively. The implementation of the county budgets was fraught with a myriad of challenges such as power struggles pitting governors and county assembly members, fall out between county governments and national over resource allocation and functional assignments, skewed budgetary absorption in favour of recurrent expenditure at the expense of development and above all a growing public disillusion about county government to deliver on the constitution promises of equity, participation, rule of law and effective service delivery. CEDGG responded to this situation by designing and implementing projects geared towards strengthening the capacity of the citizens to hold their respective county governments accountable as well as forging an effective partnership with the county authorities to build their capacity to respond to citizen needs especially the marginalized and vulnerable groups. This was done through a set of projects activities ranging from community sensitisation, mobilization and dialogue forums around the county budget processes, community action planning that informed civic engagement with the county authorities on identified pertinent issues, monitoring of the county development process in partnership with citizen oversight groups such resident associations, civil society networks and local media. A variety of social accountability mechanisms were employed such as the social audit, budget monitoring and analysis. The
interventions informed our policy and legal advocacy for respective county governments such as the county government public participation bill, bursary allocation bill among other legislation aimed at promoting good governance processes. It is our hope that your interaction with this report will provide insights into our endeavour to safeguard the rights of the marginalised and vulnerable groups and thereby informing mechanism for partnerships and networking among our peers and development partners.

Detailed and specific reports can also be found in our interactive organization website: http://www.cedgg.org/

Cornelius Oduor
CEO, CEDGG
3.0 CEDGG: PROFILE, MISSION STATEMENT & PROJECT REPORTS

3.1 CEDGG: A BRIEF HISTORY
The Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance (CEDGG) is a grass root civil society organization that works to empower vulnerable and marginalized citizens to claim their rights in local development and governance processes. CEDGG has been in operation since the year 2001 and legally exists as a Non-Governmental Organization. Our head office is in Nakuru Town – Nakuru County, in the Republic of Kenya. Our Programme work covers mainly the mid Rift Valley region i.e. Nakuru, Baringo and Kericho Counties.

The core problem that CEDGG seeks to address in the society is a low capacity of the marginalized and vulnerable groups to engage with and participate in decision making processes around the constitutional reform agenda and the development process in general. Thus, the mandate of CEDGG is that of empowering vulnerable groups through training, advocacy, networking and linkages in areas of human and constitutional rights, cultural heritage and equitable distribution of resources. Beneficiaries of CEDGG include disadvantaged ethnic minorities, women, youth, children, displaced persons and the poor. For more details on the organisation’s profile visit our website www.cedgg.org, i.e. Homepage Menu bar-About Us.

3.2 THE MISSION STATEMENT

3.2.1 Vision
We have adopted and agreed our vision to be “A society that respects and protects marginalized and vulnerable peoples’ rights in all social, political and economic development processes”.

3.2.2 Mission
In this regard our mission is to develop the capacity of marginalised and vulnerable communities in Kenya to demand, adopt and implement sustainable best practices in democratic good governance through advocacy, information dissemination, research and networking.

3.2.3 Our Motto:
We foster “Safeguarding the Rights of the Vulnerable and Marginalized Citizens”
3.2.4 Core Values.
Further, we base our core values on the internationally recognised principles that human rights are universal, inalienable and are based on the rule of law. In fostering the realization of the human rights of marginalized and vulnerable people in Baringo and Nakuru counties, CEDGG therefore subscribes to the following core values: team work, social justice, professional excellence, integrity, and tolerance.

3.3 KEY RESULT AREAS (KRAs) AND PROJECT REPORTS FOR 2014

To achieve our goals, we work through a short-term to a medium-term five year strategic plan. The current strategic plan was developed and adopted in 2013 and covers the period between 2013 and 2017\(^2\)). This strategic plan is however not fixed on a stone but is subject to frequent reviews. Moreover, based on this plan, we operate within four key strategic areas. These strategic options are hereby referred to as Key Results Areas (KRAs) and are the drivers through which CEDGG plans to realise its goals. Below, we provide key highlights of these KRAs and report on projects that were carried out during the period under review. This subsection also takes into consideration important activities resulting from these projects.

Suffice is to also note that in order to realise its objectives and ensure maximum and effective realisation of results CEDGG used a number of strategic approaches: Firstly, the target groups were involved in planning, mobilisation and implementation of project activities. Secondly, CEDGG worked directly with organised groups representing the vulnerable and marginalised communities e.g. Residents Associations in Nakuru Municipality, Women and Youth Self-help groups, Networks for PWDs, support groups for PLHIVs. Thirdly, CEDGG worked closely with Government officials (both National and County) and Civil Society Organisations. For example, in Baringo and Nakuru Counties, the preparation of popular versions of the County Integrated Development Plan (CIDP) and Budgets, was collectively undertaken.

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\(^2\) See the CEDGG Strategic Plan (2013-2017) for more details on (Homepage-Downloads).
Nonetheless, we remained open to other creative approaches fitting in certain contexts and situations. Subsequently, in order to establish/evaluate projects’ impacts, a similar approach was utilised. That is, project beneficiaries were involved during monitoring and evaluation processes. They were subjected to M&E tools such as TABAL form. Moreover, the project beneficiaries also participated actively in project review meetings as well as end of project evaluation workshops. Therefore, most of the results highlighted henceforth are as a result of such diligent and creative application of the mentioned strategies and their complementing resources.

3.3.1 KEY RESULT AREA I: The Governance and Devolution Programme

The main target outcome for this KRA is behavioural transformation and change in attitude among 

**duty bearers** on one hand and on the other hand **rights holders**. Rights Holders are in this case considered to be the vulnerable groups, and the change expected is such that the vulnerable can “…pro-actively claim their rights by advocating and actively participating in the decision making and resources allocation processes at county and national government levels” (CEDGG (popular version) SP 2013-2017, 10). Moreover, for the duty bearers, the expected change should enable “…pro-active consultation and consideration of the felt development and welfare needs of the vulnerable groups in the three counties during decision making and resources allocation processes” (Ibid. 10). In summary, this key result area aims at “[promoting] participatory issue-based decision-making processes in the devolved system of government within the 3 counties of Baringo, Nakuru and Kericho” (Ibid. 10).

In order to achieve the above outcome CEDGG implemented 5 donor-funded projects which resulted to number of activities as follows:

**Project Title:** “*Strengthening the capacity of marginalised and vulnerable groups to engage with the county government in Nakuru*”. This project was funded by TROCAIRE and covered the Nakuru slums (Rhonda, Kaptembwa, Mwariki B, Bondeni, Flamingo, Nyamarutu, Wamagata, London/Hilton and Murogi). Furthermore, the project sought to contribute to an accountable, transparent and participatory county governance system in Kenya.
CEDGG in partnership with TISA with support from DIFID-DAP implemented a project titled “institutionalising public participation/social accountability and under county governments” was also implemented. It was supported by DFID-DAP through TISA and was implemented in Baringo County. This program sought to engage with County Government of Baringo to assist in the operationalization of social accountability provisions provided in the constitution and other relevant laws specifically around the planning a budgeting processes.

In order to contribute to the overall objectives of this KRA a fourth project was implemented also in Baringo County. Titled “JUKUMU LETU initiative – promoting citizens and CSOs effective participation in governance at the county and national levels”, it was funded by HIVOS East Africa through Constitution and Reform Education Consortium (CRECO).

The UNDP – Amkeni Wakenya project titled “mobilise citizens to participate in the 2014/2015 county budget planning”. This was funded by UNDP- Amkeni Wakenya through the emerging issues Fund. Moreover, the main objective of this project is replicated in its title – to mobilise citizens to participate in county planning for the period mentioned.

As a result of the above projects, the following main activities were realised. These activities were carried out in collaboration with the target communities and various stakeholders including relevant government officials drawn from both the national and the county governments. As a result, various positive impacts were recorded or observed as we will see in the following section.
A summary of key activities from the above projects:

i. Extensive social audit activities were carried out on various public projects; and reports of the social audit verified, validated, consolidated, published and publicised. Prior, various audit tools were developed, social auditors trained and engaged.

ii. The validation above was done through community social audit meetings within the target areas

iii. Round tables between Governors and CSOs conducted with a view to improving dialogue between the two.

iv. CSOs meetings in partnership with the private sector were also conducted.

v. Media players, especially local journalists were engaged in various meetings and in some cases trained with a view to enhancing their capacities in understanding activities carried out by CEDGG and its partners and also improving their knowledge on Constitution of Kenya 2010 and application of other laws.

vi. Quantities of Information Education and Communication (IEC) Materials were produced and disseminated to relevant groups of the target communities.

vii. Public Awareness Fora were also carried out where the IEC materials were also used to disseminate information. Other community related activities carried out include community sensitisation, engagement and action fora,

viii. In addition, the capacity of County state officers (MCAs, members of county executive) was developed through trainings; civic education fora;

ix. Radio Talk Shows with information targeting the general public were realised.

x. CEDGG in partnership with TISA petitioned the High Court of Kenya regarding the unconstitutionality of the CDF Act 2013. This was through petition No. 71 2013, the High Court of Kenya in Nairobi.

3.3.2 KEY RESULT AREA II: Human Rights and Access to Justice Programme
This is the second KRA. Its key expected outcomes are two-fold i.e. first is raised awareness levels of the marginalised/community on their rights and justice system; secondly is increased capacity of the target groups to demand for respect, protection and fulfilment of their rights and access to
justice. Furthermore, this KRA aims at “[facilitating] vulnerable and marginalized groups and communities to access justice and secure their rights” (Ibid. 11).

The following two projects were implemented under this KRA:

The first, **GIZ-funded project** was “monitoring of ethnic relations in Nakuru County” targeting Nakuru Town East and West, Rongai, Kuresoi North and South, Naivasha, Subukia, Bahati, Molo and Njoro Constituencies. The project was done with support from *Gessellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit* (GIZ) and it sought to contribute to the above outcome by monitoring trends on the evolution of ethnic relations and other identified socio-economic and political issues affecting the societal fabric in the region, with a view to contributing towards national healing, cohesion, and integration.

The following activities were carried out based on these projects:

i. 12 planning and coordination meetings were held

ii. 154 Public events were monitored

iii. 6 daily national newspapers were reviewed

iv. One public forum was held to decrease ethnic trends in the county for the entire period of the project.

3.3.3 **KEY RESULT AREA III: Partnership, Networking and Knowledge Management Programme**

This is the third KRA whose target outcome is a joint action taken by like-minded organisations under the leadership of CEDGG. Consequently, the objective of this result area is “to promote synergy and leverage other [sectors’] actors in delivering the organization’s mandate” (Ibid. 12).

Under this KRA, CEDGG attended (following invitation) and organised various stakeholders’ fora during the period under review. These included CSOs (leaders’) dialogue fora; while on the other hand meetings with donors were attended for purposes of induction into donor-funded projects. Some of these engagements are:
i. A devolution forum in Maanzoni Lodge which aimed at consolidating and harmonising proposals for a model County Public Participation Bill. This was funded by CRECO & TISA.

ii. Amkeni Wakenya capacity building workshop for its grantees on financial sustainability. This was organised by UFADHILI Trust.

iii. Participated in a CSOs leader’s dialogue forum organised by Poverty Eradication Network on The state of CSOs in Rift Valley Region. Where the CEO made a presentation.

iv. Participated in Baringo County CSOs forum, which encourages collaboration of CSOs in the county. This was funded by CRECO, TISA, DAP, and Amkeni Wakenya.

3.3.4 KEY RESULT AREA IV: Organisational Development Programme
This is the forth and the last KRA whose objective is “to build internal capacity of CEDGG to competently implement its mandate” (Ibid. 13). It therefore focuses in attaining a well-developed and operationalized CEDGG internal operational system and procedures.

In order to achieve this outcome, CEDGG engaged in the following:
  i. Secretariat review meetings
  ii. Fundraising meetings (both internally and externally)
  iii. CEDGG’s website was upgraded
  iv. Board meeting.
  v. Creation of social media platforms e.g. Facebook, Twitter, Youtube, SMS Outreach.

Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance

CEDGGngo2014

CEDGGngo

www.cedgg.org
A Transitionary Overview
In the following section we discuss significant results following successful implementation of the above projects. Such results are significant 1) in the way they were implemented, especially if the community took leadership; 2) they are significant as they influenced behavioural change among various stakeholders especially members of the public and state officers or; 3) brought about positive transformation of CEDGG in terms of management and governance.
4.0 PROGRAM IMPACTS REPORT: SIGNIFICANT MILESTONES

The following significant outcomes and impacts were noted during the reporting period:

- **Successful implementation of social audits**
  
  Effective evaluation was carried out on selected County and Constituency Development Fund (CDF)-funded projects in the county of Nakuru. These were carried out by members of Resident’s Associations who were trained and equipped with the necessary skills by CEDGG. Moreover, a total of 7 CDF projects, 7 county government projects, 3 health facilities, 8 education facilities were evaluated using the social audit tools. Additionally, some programs aimed at benefiting youth and women empowerment, PWDs and HIV/AIDS were also appraised. Reports drawn from this process were discussed, verified, and validated in meetings bringing together communities (target public project beneficiaries) and CDF and County government officials.

What were the observed outputs and outcomes?

- A “Social Audit Report on the State of Service Delivery in Nakuru Municipality” was published. A total of 500 booklets were printed out. For more details on this report visit this link or see appendix. 

  - The report was shared with communities, government, CDF officers, donors and other stakeholders
  - As a result there was revival of stalled projects. For example, a classroom at Kimathi Primary School, construction of Kivumbini Secondary School, reroofing and construction classrooms at Milimani primary school. All these critical amenities had stalled but were revived as enlightened citizens began raising questions with the London RA officials conducting Social Audit of Gioto Water Kiosk funded by CDF Nakuru Town West

  Auditing CDF project by various community leaders, Nakuru Town West

  Free Area RA members social auditing a project in Lions Hill Pri. School. Nakuru East
concerned authorities.

iii. Feedback on utilization of project resources – In addition to the above, communities received explanations and clarifications on resources utilisation regarding some public projects. In this regard, feedback about Bondeni Maternity Project worth 30 Million where funds were diverted to other uses was shared. Also information regarding St John’s Primary School Bus was shared as well as information regarding bursary allocation for Nakuru Town East Constituency, where a schedule for the fourth tranche was shared with the members of the public.

- **Citizens successfully mobilised and participated in 2014/2015 county planning budgets and other awareness campaigns.**

Through IEC materials, community planning for action, multimedia strategic approaches, and through application of other effective strategies preparing and effecting common platforms between government officers and the public (like roundtables with governors’ offices), we were able to empower groups of communities to effectively and efficiently participate in the 2014/2015 county planning processes. As a result of this:

- **Increased turn-out in public hearings:** There was a notable increase in the turn-out for Public hearings for the Nakuru County Budget 2014/15, compared to the same process the previous year. This was basically attributed to enhanced awareness levels.

- **Memoranda presented:** Various community groups (Resident Associations, women, youth, PWDs and PLWHIVs) presented memoranda (both written and oral)
CEDGG has already established that some critical projects proposed by “Community Oversight Committees” were included in the Final Budget 2014/2015 financial year.

- There was integration of marginalized and vulnerable groups’ needs in the County Budget and Development plans
- Enhanced Citizen vigilance in the management of County Affairs
- There was increased appreciation of organised participation - for example, as a result of these activities, two more groups were formed to champion for the interests of women, youth, PWDs and PLWHIV. For example, Kivumbini Youth, Kivumbini Women Initiative and Molo-Njoro Network of PLWHIV support groups presented petitions during the period under review.
- Proposed model County Protection of Public Participation Bill received support from community members and they have joined CSOs in advocating for its adoption.
- Increased collaboration and enhanced relationship between the supply and demand sides i.e. duty bearers and wananchi. In this regard, the local leaders such as the MCAs, Sub-County Administrators, area chiefs, CDF representatives and the office of the MPs attended most of the community sensitization and social Audit meetings. They made clarifications and commitments where necessary.
**Sustained successful media strategy**

This was concretised in radio talk shows, media engagement fora, radio snapshots, and trainings of media practitioners. As a result, the following changes are attributable:

- **Improved CEDGG-Media partnership**: CEDGG’s partnership with local radio stations has improved greatly. Media continues to reach out to CEDGG for comments on topical budgetary issues affecting counties in the region.

- **Increased awareness**: More citizens are aware of the County Government programmes and projects as well as avenues of participation in the County Budgeting and planning processes. For example, the use of snapshots and media as a strategy for promoting accountability has been identified as a best practice by a number of actors including the county governments themselves.

- **Negotiation for free radio slots ability**: CEDGG successfully negotiated for extra/free slots in the radio programmes to further concretise its objectives thus an opportunity for sustainability.

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**Successful petition of the case of CDF Act (Petition 71 of 2013, the High Court of Kenya)**

The three-bench judges delivered the historical ruling in favour of the petitioners CEDGG and TISA in a case that affects governance, administration and disbursement of finances in the country. The bench found the CDF Act 2013 to be unconstitutional making the declaration that:

- A declaration is hereby issued that the Constituencies Development Funds Act, 2013 is unconstitutional and therefore invalid.

- The order of invalidity above is suspended for a period of twelve (12) months from the date of judgment.

- The national government may remedy the defect within that period and the Constituencies Development Fund Act shall stand invalidated at the expiry of the twelve (12) months or may be earlier repealed whichever comes first.

- Each party shall bear its own costs.
See the *Kenya Law Reform* for more detail on the historical judgement.

- In the first place, petition 71 of 2013 was a courageous step by CEDGG, as well as a courageous and historic ruling from the Kenyan Judiciary. Kenyans will now be able to reap full benefits of devolution without confusion, the clear mandate of the Kenyan MP is now clearly defined that it does no longer involves management of funds but oversight, checks and balances.

- Further, the CDF Board is already acting. The board is holding public hearings regarding the Fund Successful CSOs Caucuses created and sustained

Partnerships amongst CSOs were promoted during the period. A good example is the formation of Baringo County Civil Society Forum (BACSOF). Also, the cases of civil society organisations and other stakeholders working together to develop memoranda, petitions to governments and collaborating in judicial litigation and community dispute resolutions are other good indicators.

“Do not go where the path may lead; go instead where there is no path and leave a trail”.

Ward and Sub-County training in Baringo County.
Successful projects leadership and ownership by empowered communities

Various communities took leadership in the implementation of a number of projects following capacity development by CEDGG. For example, Residents Association in Nakuru municipality was part of the big team that together with members of the public evaluated various government-funded projects during the social audit processes. They also took up leadership in the radio talk shows thus becoming the experts in disseminating information on various issues including the results of the social audit to the general public. Other community groups which also provided expertise (in the radio talk shows and the social audits) were drawn from PWDs, PLWHIV and youth and women groups. In addition these groups:

- Submitted memoranda to the county budget processes
- Are increasingly taking part in planning and budgeting processes.
- Have taken up ownership of CEDGG projects as they realise the importance of engaging with the government.

CEDGG succeeded in sustainably engaging county government and CDF officials

This was mainly done through the Governors round tables and other collaboration and engaging fora with various county officials. In addition, drive to bring members of the public and state officers together for prioritisation of projects and mutual benefit as required by the constitution ensured success. Further, positive responses from both sides were motivating factors. Some good indicators of this success include:

- A formal request from the County Assembly was received by CEDGG seeking support for training the County Assembly Liaison Committee members on the Budget Process. The training was carried out in 13th January attracting 35 MCAs, members of County liaison committees. They were trained on county planning and budgeting processes.
Successful Fundraising and improved CEDGG’s visibility

A number of activities carried out under KRA IV placed CEDGG towards a reform trajectory as well as enabling successful fundraising. Secretariat review and fundraising meetings; recruitment of ICT assistant; and capacity assessment meetings and training with donors led to the following impacts:

- Increased donor funding e.g. Konrad Adeneuer Stiftung
  Foundation funding commenced in 2015; a proposal to Amkeni Wakenya was pre-qualified; funding from DFID approved; funding from OSIEA received;

- Finance, Human Resource and Procurement manuals were formulated to supplement the Management and Operation Manual as a result of capacity audit and subsequent capacity building on financial management and M&E.

- Enhanced CEDGG website: CEDGG became active on social media and its website improved in content and quality of presentation. Needless, the website has developed to the level of a resource centre and reference for most organisations seeking to partner with us. For example, in the period under review we received researchers and other delegations that have developed interest in our work as a result of the website's improved visibility. FaceBook(cedggngo2014), Twitter (cedggngo), YouTube (Centre for Enhancing Democracy and Good Governance), Website(www.cedgg.org) amongst others.
5.0 Participants’ Analysis

During the period under review, we interacted with more than 1,791.00 members of various communities, government officials and officials of residents associations directly. This was achieved via the activities reported above. Moreover, the residents associations have over time become the face of our engagement with various publics as they bring about sustainability in terms “ground” penetration, knowledge, and political mileage. Government officials were an important ingredient as they bridged the gap to address issues raised by the members of the public regarding application of various government policies. Their participation has therefore ensured that CEDGG’s work is not isolated. Furthermore, it is estimated that more than 300,000.00 members of the public (listeners) were reached out through the radio talk shows. In a nutshell, the distribution of participants in our meetings was as indicated by the following few examples in the diagrams below:

Community sensitization and action planning fora

Figure 2
This being one of the many fora that we convened, it is clear that the number of female participants was higher than the male participants. In this case 765 women participated as compared to 317 men. The number of PWDs participating remained very low. Female domination applies in all cases from the first venue (area) to the last.

a. Training of community oversight committees on Social Audits and community score cards, lobbying and advocacy

Figure 3

In this case, the number of female participants is only slightly higher than the number of male participants. As a matter of fact, the number is almost equal. Furthermore, this diagram unlike the previous one segregates the participants into various age groups. It is therefore clear that the numbers of participants of between the ages 37-45 are higher than the rest of the groups. Also, unlike in the other age groups where the male participants were slightly higher than the female one, this age group provides a different inclination towards higher female participation.

b. Community Social Audit validation meetings
The diagram below enforces a trend that we have already observed before, that the numbers of female participants have more affinity to public meetings than their male counterparts.
Many explanations can be attributed to this however; we would propose a survey to establish why this persistent trend is occurring in most cases in different regions in the three target counties.

6.0 2014 LESSONS LEARNT AND LOOKING FORWARD

6.1 Lessons Learnt

During the reporting period we have learnt the following lessons and we are already in the process of intervening in some of them.

1. **More funding important**: with more funding CEDGG would influence a multiplier effect on the results of this reporting year to other counties that were not covered during this period but remain a target of the organisation.
   - More funding would also enhance and sustain the relationships created between service providers (government) and beneficiaries (citizens). This would go deeper in influencing community-driven projects prioritisation under the devolved structure, key for sustainable development.
   - Will cater for expanded social audit trainings on larger parts of the community. More projects will as such be audited resulting to better development.
2. County government officials require more capacity-building than ever. This is because there is clear inadequate knowledge on normative and governance requirements of devolution.

3. **County governments need be more involving and supportive**: county governments are yet to appreciate the work of CSOs in creating and sustaining synergy between them and the citizens. Even though there is improvement based on our experience this year, bureaucracy is still being used to avoid support for CSOs initiatives.

   - In spite of this, county governments would benefit a lot from collaborations with civil society especially in cases of community mobilisation, capacity development and policy enactment. In this regard, counties can provide support as may be appropriate (material or non-material).

4. **There is need for a more strategic engagement between CEDGG and county officers**: this will prevent disappointments like it was encountered in the reporting period where on one hand, county officials could not participate in CEDGG’s public fora because of tight time schedules or, on the other hand CEDGG and other CSOs find it difficult to participate in various county processes because of short or inadequate notices.

   - CEDGG will in the future use its new found rapport with the county governments to negotiate for a more mutually beneficial partnership, one that subsequently results in citizens being direct beneficiaries.

5. **There is need to attract and retain volunteers**: this would include retired teachers and other retired government officers who would offer their services pro bono. This will ensure sustainability of our work especially among the communities. This will also deal with challenge of stuff-turnover especially in cases of inadequate donor funding.

6. Strengthen existing partners: productive partnerships like the one between TISA and CEDGG need to be enhanced through various strategies including collaborative fundraising, knowledge transfer and collaborative community-for-action mobilisation. TISA can learn from CEDGG’s county-based experience while CEDGG can learn for TISA’s national level experience. This way, the two organisations are able to influence issues at both the national and the county level as happened with the CDF Act 2013 petition. The fact that the two organisations have common interest in social audit as a tool of public project’s evaluation augments the whole point.
7. The success of any intervention involving all the stakeholders (both duty bearers and the claim holders) is largely dependent on the willingness and the ability of the citizens to make follow-ups on resolutions made and actions points agreed upon.
- As such the Social Audit team should incorporate all the members of the community in the entire process in order to gain support and collective responsibility.

8. Working with residents associations has been a revelation for CEDGG. This strategy has promoted participatory governance thus community ownership as these associations represent the communities they come from.
- However, the associations should involve their local leaders on any interventions to avoid being negatively labelled.

6.2 Looking Forward to 2015/2016
We are currently implementing the following projects in continuation of working towards our critical strategic objectives.

1. Institutionalising social accountability and public Participation in Baringo county (support through TISA)
2. Strengthening the capacities of the Vulnerable and Marginalized communities to engage with the county government of Nakuru (Funded by TROCAIRE)
3. Active Citizens Projects (funded by Society for International Development KPDS/SID)
4. Promoting citizen’s participation in county governance in budget monitoring (by Open Society Initiative for Eastern Africa (Funded by OSIEA).
5. Tushirikiane Tujumuike Tujenge Baringo (Funded by URAIA- Trust)
7. Strengthening the capacities of state and non state actors for effective devolved governance (funded by the EU and KAS)
7.0 SUCCESS STORIES 2014

From the above activities and summary outputs and outcomes it can be argued that CEDGG is in the process of achieving its critical goals as provided for in its Strategic Plan 2013-2017. Through the above extensive public engagement fora, media engagement and media outreach events, public social audit evaluation processes and other public conversation events, it is clear that CEDGG was able to reach out to and influence thousands of members of the public both directly and indirectly. Perceptions were therefore influenced and as a result of a diligent strategic approach of bringing together right holders and duty bearers, especially at the county level, we have been able to go beyond the objectives set out in our project papers, thus promoting the concretisation of the constitution of Kenya 2010.

The CEO and Programs Manager receives a trophy during the CSOYA Award 2014
More so, by enhancing the capacities of members of the public (especially the marginalised and the vulnerable) CEDGG enabled them to confidently make presentations/memoranda to the county planning processes thus directly influencing the counties' development agenda. The fact that committees and sub-committees from various groups have been formed to advocate for key issues; the fact that CSOs in the three counties (Nakuru, Baringo and Kericho) are able to caucus, is a good indicator of the sustainability of these achievements.

It is thus clear that we have been able to promote participatory issue-based decision-making processes in the devolved system of government within the three counties as is the expected outcome of Key Result Area I. Furthermore, by empowering the vulnerable and the marginalised in civic capacity; by providing them with avenues/platforms to participate and connecting them with the counties' government leaderships; by taking up public interest litigation and intervening to find favourable solutions in disputes, serves to enhance the realisation of [facilitating] vulnerable and marginalized groups and communities to access justice and secure their rights.

As we conclude, let us establish some “extraordinary” efforts and the “extraordinary” results achieved.

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3 See an analysis of expected outcomes for all key result areas under the Mission Statement Section
Establishment and strengthening of the Baringo County Civil Society Forum:

Baringo County’s history was such that it was rather difficult for CSOs to caucus and undertake their mandate in governance and development processes. The environment was characterized by hostility towards CSOs as they were perceived as opposition to the government of the day. Since the promulgation of the constitution 2010, several CSOs have been formed however, they have had limited capacity to coordinate and synergise in order to successfully engage the county government. In order to address these challenges, CEDGG intervened through development the capacity of these CSOs, and organised strategy meetings which culminated into formation of Baringo County CSOs forum constituting of (at least) 30 organizations working in various sectors (health, education, human rights and governance, business). Since its formation, the network successfully organized joint initiatives e.g. a Governor’s roundtable, analysed the Public Participation Bill 2014 and held peaceful demonstration on insecurity in Baringo South.

In conclusion, this report has provided feedback to the question raised by our Strategic Plan whether the capacity of marginalised and vulnerable communities in Kenya to demand, adopt and implement sustainable best practices in democratic governance can be developed. It is clear that this is achievable.