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# **Abbreviations**

С.В.О	Community Based Organization
COVID 19	Corona Virus of 2019
GoK	Government of Kenya
I.E.B.C	Independent Electoral and Boundaries Commission
I.G.A.D	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
KAS	Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung
K.C.D.F	Kenya Community Development Fund
K.Y.D.P	Kenya Youth Development Policy
K.Y.E.O.P	Kenya Youth Employment Opportunities Project
МоН	Ministry of Health
N.G.A.A.F	National Government Affirmative Action Fund
N.G.A.O	National Government Administration Officers
N.G.C.D.F	National Government Constituency Development Fund
N.G.O	Non-Governmental Organization
O.S.S.R.E.A	Organization for Social Science Research in Eastern and
	Southern Africa
P.W.D	Person With Disability
S.E.K.E.B	South Eastern Kenya Economic Bloc
S.D.G	Sustainable Development Goals

# **Acknowledgment**

The Youth Congress is grateful for the contribution from our members, networks, and youth-serving organizations that have worked and inspired us in this period. We are beholden to the staff, interns, volunteers, and the guidance of the Advisory Council/Board that contributed to the success.

#### The team at the secretariat include;

?aphael Obonyo	Convener and Execu
lenry Ogola	Co-convener and Pro
lalima Osman	Programme Officer
Christine Osongo	Finance Officer
Charles Waweru	Program Associate

Finally, we are grateful to our partners for the support, especially the Ford Foundation, Kenya Community Development Foundation (K.C.D.F.), Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (K.A.S.), and other partners. Through their invaluable support, we were able to realize our organization and project goals.



cutive Director Programme Coordinator



# **Executive Summary**

As the calendar draws to a close, introspection beckons. We need to ask ourselves; did we narrow the gulf between the society as it is and the society we aspire to? The Youth Congress wishes to invite you to answer this question on our behalf by reviewing our Annual Report for 2020 – 2021 that presents our progress report of building a legacy of youth transformation.

Embark on this journey by understanding our organizational profile, thus laying the foundation for assessing whether our structure fits the purpose. Please review how we have unlocked the youth potential through our four core program areas of Policy and Research; Youth and Leadership; Youth Entrepreneurship, Talent and Innovation, and Institutional Development.

Due to the lingering presence and devastation of the COVID19 pandemic, The Youth Congress embarked on mapping the impact of the pandemic on youth enterprises. Read through our relief effort and the communities that benefited through our various partnerships.

The pandemic did not stop us from cementing the pillars of youth participation in democracy. Indeed, besides forging ahead with convening the Youth Leagues at the regional level, we were able to add voices to the youth as we move towards the 2022 General Election by launching the Elect Youth 2022 initiative.

Achieving social change calls for training and research, which The Youth Congress always has and will always be keen to participate in. Moreover, our various engagements in exchanges and learning built our capacity to meet the demands of 21st century youth.

As we look forward to walking the journey with you and other partners, look at our fiscal responsibility and how we leverage strategic communication to change our minds and change the future.

We pledge to continue working with like-minded individuals and organizations in driving socio-economic conversations to ensure the youth, our constituency, have the opportunity to reach their full potential, contribute to society, and have a voice in the decisions that affect them and live and work in dignity.

# **Building a Legacy of Youth Transformation**

Truly, it is an understatement to say that the 2020–2021 year was challenging. The global COVID19 pandemic has affected — and continues to distress — the youth and communities' personal and economic wellbeing. The youth populations we support are experiencing continuing barriers as they navigate the pandemic and the accompanying challenges.

This year has also been a time of great introspection for us all. We have witnessed the disparity in our community, affirming our need as a values-based organization and registered Non-Profit Organization to be a leader in its fair and equitable recovery.

If there can be a positive take on these difficult times, it is witnessing the strength, determination, and intentionality of The Youth Congress leadership and staff as we work with the youth through the challenges. We did this with respect and integrity - some of our organization's core values.

Navigating the demands of our programs called enhanced capacity building initiatives of our staff. Through various partnerships and collaborations, we participated in multiple programs that ensured our staff was conversant with contemporary skills to match the demands of the communities we serve.

As a premier youth organization with a 13+ year history, The Youth Congress has evolved in delivering its programs and services, from leadership and governance to economic development to policy and research. The Youth Congress has continued to establish and build robust youth networks-youth leagues in all the 47 counties in Kenya.



**Caren Wakoli** Board Chairperson <sup>44</sup> The success of the Youth constituents is pegged on their ability to support one another in every endeavor <sup>99</sup>



**Raphael Obonyo** Convener We also applied for and were awarded specialized funding for programs that specifically supported youth and women whose livelihoods were negatively impacted by the pandemic. We hope to build on the fantastic work this partnership with Kenya Community Development Foundation does in supporting youth livelihoods.

In addition to our new and expanding service areas, we are excited to have rolled out the Elect Youth 2022 initiative to drum up and support youths vying for political seats in the forthcoming 2022 General Elections. We shall endeavor to galvanize young people to take positive action before, during, and after elections.

As we seek to inspire other like-minded organizations, The Youth Congress remains relentless in disseminating opinion on various societal issues through international, national, and county-level periodicals. We shall never tire of seeking to change minds for a changed future.

As we continue to navigate these difficult times, we must strengthen our commitment to be champions of equity, diversity, and inclusion, especially for the youth, to advocate for change to systemic issues that youth continue to encounter.

Thus far, we are proud of our achievements. We have difficult but necessary work to embody our commitment to these principles as we look ahead. We shall continue to consolidate the gains we have made and build on our track record of changing the lives of the youth constituency.

With the vision and support of our Board of Directors, incredible staff, youth, and partners, we look forward to building back better and more equitably for all.



The Youth Congress is pleased to publish the 2021 Annual Report that showcases activities in 2021. Despite the socio-economic impact of the COVID19 pandemic since early 2020, The Youth Congress discharged its obligations to the community, partners, and other stakeholders.

The report offers brief insights into the community engagements and projects planned and implemented within the broader framework of The Youth Congress Strategic Plan that sets out its mission of being the premier youth-serving organization both in Kenya and the region.

As it shall become evident, the various projects rolled out over the period were equally geared towards realizing the Sustainable Development Goals. More importantly, The Youth Congress amplified its efforts in championing equality, inclusion, and diversity across all its operations and programs. Never has there been a need to champion these three core values been more critical than during the COVID19 pandemic.

The report is divided into five core sections as follows:

#### **Part One** Organizational Profile Offers a brief profile of The Y Congress

### **Part Two**

Unlocking the Youth Potent Highlights the activities and strategies deployed within ea

Programme component of 1 Youth Congress to realize the objectives of the projects;

## **Part Three**

### Partnerships & Collaborati

Mention of entities that offer technical and financial support The Youth Congress;

Youth	<b>Part Four</b> Impact of COVID 19 Commentary of the CC and its impact on the operations of The Yout Congress and;
<b>ential</b> nd neach of The the	<b>Part Five</b> <b>Fiscal Responsibility</b> Highlights the auditor' and income/ expenditu outlook for the period.
<b>rtions</b> fered oport to	

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# 1.0 Organizational Profile

# 1.1 Origin & Identity

The Youth Congress is a registered, youth-serving Non-Governmental Organization that provides young people with a platform to articulate their issues, explore opportunities for participation and leadership to address their interests, concerns, aspiration effectively, and engage young people in the social, economic, and political process for development.

The organization emerged in the run-up to the 2007 general elections in Kenya as part of efforts by youth to seek development and emancipation through political accountability. Just before the elections, the youth of the then Kasarani Constituency in Nairobi developed the Kasarani People's Manifesto, which parliamentary and civic candidates had to sign to show their commitment to work with the constituents in bringing about actual development. Subsequent events led to the formation and consolidation of The Youth Congress, which has evolved and is currently present in several informal urban settlements and different parts of Kenya.

## 1.2 Our Vision

An inclusive society in which the youth enjoy all rights and apply their agency.

# **1.4 Our Strategic Objectives**

- Meaningful participation of youth in Policy-making and implementation.
- Meaningful youth participation in leadership and governance processes.
- and talents for economic development.
- deliver its Programme.





• An empowered youth population benefits from opportunities and uses their skills

• An effectively governed and managed organization with adequate resources to



### **1.5 Our Strategic Approaches**

- Capabilities approach youth rights.
- Mainstreaming of youth in all processes.
- Community-based work focused on the root causes of poverty and marginalization.
- Information sharing, generation of knowledge, and nurturing of skills.
- Partnership with individuals, groups, and organizations with a shared vision.
- Reliance on unity, social cohesion, and collective action amongst the youth.
- Promotion of equity and equality.
- Inclusive and gender-responsive Programme and practices.

### **1.6 Our Values**

Independence	Directio
Integrity	Honesty, in all unc
Volunteerism	Reliance
Non-discrimination	Inclusion social, cu
Relevance	Coping v to addres
Resilience	Determi

#### on based on internal principles & organs

, accountability, transparency and professionalism dertakings

e on the intrinsic motivation of members

n of and respect for all regardless of natural, political, ultural, religion, economic or other distinction

with the emerging trends and applying innovation ess them.

ination and passion in all pursuits.

### 1.7 Our Niche

TYC is a self-driven, community rooted and human rights based movement of the youth for the youth. It serves as a reliable youth agent, especially for young people in deprived communities who bear the brunt of exclusion and impoverishment. It addresses the diverse political, social, economic and cultural concerns of the youth through passion, intellectualism, professionalism and role modeling. TYC relies on community-based mobilisers to build its membership and access communities. At the same time, it blends and interacts with the government and corporate world without compromising its focus on needy communities.

#### **1.8 Programmes**

#### 1.8.1 Policy & Research

The Programme aims to realize the meaningful participation of youth in The Programme aims to realize that an Policy-making and implementation. Its expected outputs are improved knowledge on existing policies and their effect on the youth; one-stop information center on the state of the youth in Kenya; coordinated advocacy initiatives on youth issues; and increased youth participation in policymaking and advocacy.

#### 1.8.2 Youth & Leadership

The Programme aims to realize meaningful youth participation in leadership and governance processes and build the next generation of youth leaders with vision and values. Its expected outputs are: youth in leadership positions and processes, increased awareness and capacity to engage in leadership and governance processes, and youth actively promoting ethical leadership.

#### 1.8.3 Youth Entrepreneurship. Talent & Innovation

empowered youth population benefits from opportunities and utilizes their skills and talents for economic development. Its expected outputs are young people equipped with entrepreneurial skills; young people linked to financial options and markets; talent realization and utilization by the youth; and partnerships and alliances built to advance youth economic development.

#### **1.8.4** Institutional Development

The Programme aims to realize an effectively governed and managed organization with adequate resources to deliver its Programme. Its expected outputs are sufficient resources for smooth and effective implementation of activities; a staff complement that is competent, passionate, determined, and responsive to youth values and agenda; functional partnerships and networks; inclusive, participatory, and genderresponsive Programme; management systems, guidelines and policies developed and implemented; and functional and inclusive management and governance systems.

### **1.9 Our Organizational Structure**

Implementation N
The General Asser organs of The Yout Council, Youth Asse the overall direction
This consists of rep forums and netwo Leagues. It facilitate within The Youth Co
The Advisory Counc consists of selected who provide strated The Youth Congress
The Youth Congress Convener/Executive Finance Manager, F staff and other tean management of th Advisory Council ar commitment to ge issues are considere
These are ad hoc tea assistance to The Yo of specialists, interes
These are individua Youth Congress. Tl (FBOs), Communit private sector and c

#### Mandate

mbly consists of representatives of the various Ith Congress. These include: Secretariat, Advisory embly and partners. The General Assembly defines n and mandate of The Youth Congress

presentatives of the various vouth organisations. orks that work with The Youth Congress Youth es mobilization, organization and communication Congress and beyond.

ncil serves as the Board to The Youth Congress. it ed persons with expertise in defferent fields and egic advice, guidance, mentorship and oversight to ss on behalf of the General Assembly

ss has a core human complement of staff namely: e Director, Co-convener/Programme Coodinator, Programme officer and assitsants, Administration m members. The secretariat is responsible for the he organisation's routine affairs and reports to the and the membership. Inclusion, gender balance, ender equality and technical expertise on gender red in the recruitment of staff and consultants.

eams constituted to provide technical services and outh Congress and specific matters. They consists est groups and selected individuals.

als and organizations that share and support The They include; NGOs, Faith Based Organizations ity-Based Organizations (CBOs), governments, development agencies.



# 2.0 Unlocking the Youth Potential

The Youth Congress has organized its work around four thematic areas; Policy and Research, Youth and Leadership, Youth Entrepreneurship, Talent and Innovation, and Institutional Development.

# 2.1 Policy & Research

The flagship activities implemented and achievements under the Policy and Research program included:

### 2.1.1 Youth Policy Integration at the Counties

The Youth Congress has been at the forefront championing for review of the National Youth Policy (2007) to conform to the new realities and the Constitution of Kenya (2010). The review concluded in 2019, opening the document to public dissemination and domestication at the county levels. In 2021, **Nairobi City Council Youth Policy** was developed following comprehensive stakeholder engagements where The Youth Congress was a keen contributor.

#### 2.1.2 Mapping Impact of COVID 19 on Youth Businesses

The Youth Congress, in partnership with K.C.D.F, mapped out the impact of COVID19 on youth enterprises located in Mathare and Korogocho. The survey was informed by the devastating effects of COVID19 in Kenya's economy since early 2020. The responses from the survey reported on areas of support that like-minded organizations might seek to support the struggling youth enterprises.

#### 2.1.3 Youth Participation in Research

The Youth Congress participated in the **COVID 19 and the Youth Question in Africa: Impact, Response and Protection Measures in the I.G.A.D. Region** conducted by O.S.S.R.E.A. in August 2021. The research analyses how young women and men are transforming the public health and socio-economic landscape created by COVID 19 by advocating for transparent and accountable responses to COVID 19.

## 2.2 Youth & Leadership

The flagship activities implemented and achievements under the Youth and Leadership Programme included:

#### 2.2.1 Youth Leagues: Cementing the Pillars of Youth Engagement

Across Kenya, there is a burgeoning youth population calling for greater recognition in the socio-economic transformation of Kenya. With their budding energy, innovation, and optimism, there is a need to ensure the youths in Kenya are better organized by forming caucuses that will develop many youths' voices.

In this regard, the Youth Leagues and The Youth Congress desires to provide the image of youth that shall redirect the energies harbored by the various youths into forming a voice that shall drive socio-economic changes from the grassroots to the national level. However, realizing such a goal calls for an organized and disciplined youth.

Organizing is exceptionally critical for the success of any constituency, especially the youth. Youth have been used and abused for a long time, and their energies and numbers have counted for nothing. Therefore, for The Youth Congress, discipline and integrity are a requirement that is as central as is the struggle to the greater freedom that we are yarning for.

The following are what the members of The Youth Congress and its affiliate formation shall subscribe to:

i.	Adherence to The Youth Congress values and vision in advancing the youth agency
ii.	Support the ideas of the Youth Leagues and The Youth Congress and place themselves under its overall discipline
iii.	Carry out decisions, duties, and resolutions with diligence
iv.	Organize, participate and contribute positively to all County Youth league and The Youth Congress activities and to contribute to the strengthening of the organic unity of the youth movement
V.	Rally youth to support and unite behind the Country Youth Leagues and actively participate in the creation of a united, non-racial, de-ethnicized, non-sexist, democratic, and prosperous Kenya
∨i.	Protect the Youth League and the Youth Congress mandate at all times by exercising maximum vigilance
vii.	Exercise discipline and exemplary behavior at all times and maintain harmonious relations with all members of the Youth League and the community in general
Viii.	Combat all forms of tribalism, regionalism, nepotism, and other forms of discrimination based on ethnicity, gender, clan, and sex, as well as combating factionalism and malicious gossip within our ranks
ix.	Initiate and participate in activities aimed at promoting national values, solidarity, cohesion, peace, and social Justice
Х.	Promote gender agenda, inclusion, equality, and effective distribution of authority and accountability between men and women in the youth movement
xi.	Respect to the Rule of Law, the Constitution of Kenya, and other related laws

The Youth Congress - Youth Leagues was launched in Nairobi on 17 December 2020, followed by the Lake Region convening on 27 January 2021 in Kisumu County and held in the Coast Region on 11 February 2021 Mombasa County. Later, the South Eastern Region convened on 19 March 2021, held in Machakos County. The Central Region Economic Bloc Youth Leagues Consultative & Strategic Forum was held on 3 June 2021 in Nyeri County. The Narok – Kajiado Economic Bloc forum was held on 9 July 2021 in Kajiado County.

### 2.2.2 Youth & Elections: Promoting and Consolidating Democracy

The Youth Congress launched the Elect Youth 2022 Initiative to identify, drum up and provide diverse support to youth seeking political seats. The initiative was rolled out in November 2021, attracting 204 respondents spread across 39 counties across all electoral seats. The program shall also seek to build the capacity of the applicants as ambassadors of peace during the electioneering period.

Following the 30-day application window, The Youth Congress published the outcomes of the respondents in Nairobi's Radisson Blue Hotel before convening a consultative forum of the applicants from Nyeri County.

The Youth Congress was also incorporated into the I.E.B.C Youth Coordinating Committee, whose objective was to involve youth organizations in collaboration and institutional commitments to support voter registration and education for the 2022 General Election.



The Youth Congress Annual Report 2021

#### 2.2.3 Leadership for Social Change: Training NextGen Leaders

The Youth Congress participated in the Joint Initiative for Strategic Religious Action (J.I.S.R.A.) project. The project addresses fundamental challenges in Kenyan religious freedom and belief through three channels, intra-religious, interreligious, and extra-religious. It shall run for at least 56 months in Mombasa, Kwale, Kilifi, Lamu, Garissa, Isiolo, Kakamega, Migori, Nakuru, Nairobi, Nyeri, Tana River, and Taita Taveta. The training was organized by a coalition of actors led by Search for Common Ground and the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

#### 2.2.4 Knowledge Generation and Dissemination

The Youth Congress participated in a national policy conversation on what the evidence suggests on the linkage between jobs for the youth and prevention of violence in November 2021 courtesy of the Centre for Human Rights and Policy Studies (C.H.R.I.P.S.) and the National Crime Research Centre (N.C.R.C.). The conversation brings together policymakers, researchers, and practitioners researching and implementing programs/ projects on economic interventions for the youth to reduce crime and violence in Kenya and beyond.

#### 2.2.5 Youth Engagement in Eradiating Gender-Based Violence

The Youth Congress has always been keen on engaging youth actors in developing ways of combating gender-based violence. One such engagement was participating in the International 16 Days of Activism, whose Kenya's commemoration was held at the Kenyatta International Conference Centre on 24 November 2021. The event organized by the U.N. Women Kenya saw women's rights groups, state actors, and gender-based violence survivors come together to celebrate the start of the campaign.



# 2.3 Youth Entrepreneurship, Talent & Innovation

The flagship activities implemented, and achievements under the Youth Entrepreneurship, Talent, and Innovation Programme included;

#### 2.3.1 Inclusive Economies: Youth Entrepreneurship Support

The Youth Congress supported 28 young entrepreneur groups in the Mathare and Korogocho areas of Nairobi City County (N.C.C.) through a call and vetting of business proposals. The groups were supported with equipment and items as per their proposal with the available resources. The targeted groups have about 420 members. The program has generated income, employment, and improved livelihood for nearly 1,680 young people in the urban settlement to reduce their involvement in crime and violence in Kenva and beyond.

#### 2.3.2 COVID 19 Business Support

The outbreak of the COVID19 pandemic prompted The Youth Congress to develop **COVID19** relief programs for vulnerable youth businesses in Mathare and Korogocho. With support from K.C.D.F., the organization was able to send out a call for support that saw 9 young entrepreneur groups in the target area receive business support to build resilience against the financial impact of the pandemic. The targeted groups have about 135 members. The relief program generated income, employment, and improved livelihood for about 540 young people in the urban settlement.

#### 2.3.3 Exchange & Learning

The Youth Congress participated in the Utafiti Sera III: Mango High-Level Meeting following an invitation from the Centre for Africa Bio-Entrepreneurship (C.A.B.E.), Partnership for African Social and Governance Research (P.A.S.G.R.), and Alternatives. The July 2021 convention discussed Youth employment creation in agriculture and agro-processing in Kenva.

In October 2021, the organization was represented in the YouthConnekt Africa Summit held in Ghana. The summit addressed Africa's post-pandemic socio-economic setting and the roles of Africa's youth, governments, private sector, and development partners in collectively rebuilding better and stronger.

The Youth Congress championed youth issues during the 7th Annual Devolution Conference held in November 2021 in Makueni County. The organization was represented by a delegation from the S.E.K.E.B. Youth League. The conference opened opportunities for further engagement, especially for the youth. The Youth Congress Youth Leagues in S.E.K.E.B. are already discussing with the county governments to be involved in the S.E.K.E.B. development plans.

## 2.4 Institutional Development

The flagship activities implemented and achievements under the Institutional Development included;

#### 2.4.1 Recruitment and Retention of Staff

The Youth Congress has recruited and retained four staff: Executive Director, Programme Coordinator, Finance Officer, and Programme Office. The team has been complemented by the support of Interns, Volunteers, and network coordinators for the organization's day-to-day operation- secretariat. Additionally, the organization has engaged various consultants on a need basis.

#### 2.4.2 Staff Capacity Development

The Youth Congress staff have participated in various national and global capacity-building forums. For example, in October 2021, personnel underwent webinar sessions on Online Fundraising and Donor Relations Management (in November 2021) courtesy of K.C.D.F.

The Youth Congress was also keen to build its digital resilience to better its social justice endeavors. In this regard, the organization participated in a scoping study of technology and society rolled out by Kenya I.C.T. Action Network with support from the Ford Foundation. The study aimed to map emerging issues, digital threats, civil society leadership, incountry organizations providing technical assistance to social justice organizations, and the opportunities and challenges at the intersection of the work conducted by the Ford Foundation in Kenya, Tanzania, and Uganda.

#### 2.4.3 Strategic Communication: Change Mind, Change Future

The Youth Congress created and operationalized social media platforms to engage youth and stakeholders, including **Website:** www.theyouthcongress.org, **Facebook Page:** The Youth Congress, **Twitter:** @youthcongresske, **Instagram:** Youth Congress, and YouTube: Youth Congress. These platforms have enhanced communication and visibility.

In addition, T.Y.C. has published various articles in national, regional, and global periodicals as highlighted below:

#### Name of Article

Why our leaders have flopped in tackling disasters

Protect digital space ahead of 2022 polls

'Slow death of civil society blow to the rule of law

Support young aspirants to win national elections

Africa's high youth unemployment a security threat post-COVID

The power is in the hands of our youth

Empowering Smallholder Farmers Key to Food Security in Africa

How technology can improve access to education

Breaking glass ceilings: Reflections on women's leadership in Kenya

Developing Radio Partners Makes a Difference in Africa

Need to unlock the full potential of our women

On gender equality, break the glass ceiling

Advance inclusion of persons with disability

Accelerate clean energy transition in Africa

Education for all critical to today's needs

Put private security sector in order to save jobs

Tap into the digital economy

Need to regulate digital lenders

We must foster a conducive business environment

Act fast on climate change

Boost maternal health services in rural areas

Public awareness critical

Hail sports, the pacifier

The 'Promise Me, Dad' drive

Run for office to bring about desired change

Mobilizing on all fronts against a common enemy

Youth must refuse to be used to cause chaos

Theme	Periodical/ Publisher	Date of Publication
Governance	Nation Africa	December – 22
Governance	Nation Africa	December – 17
Governance	Nation Africa	December – 5
Youth	Nation Africa	November – 15
Youth	Good Governance Africa	September – 29
Youth	Nation Africa	September – 6
Food Security	Diplomatic Courier	August – 27
Education	People Daily	August – 24
Women Empowerment	Nation Africa	August – 10
Technology	Radio World	August – 6
Women Empowerment	Nation Africa	August – 6
Women Empowerment	Business Daily	August – 5
P.W.D.s	Business Daily	July–29
Energy	Business Daily	July–20
Education	Nation Africa	June–22
Security	Nation Africa	June–7
Technology	Nation Africa	June–1
Public Policy	Nation Africa	May–26
Public Policy	People Daily	May – 21
Climate Change	Nation Africa	May – 10
Healthcare	Nation Africa	May–5
Public Policy	Nation Africa	April – 18
Sports	Nation Africa	April – 8
Governance	Nation Africa	March – 25
Governance	Nation Africa	March – 23
Governance	Good Governance Africa	March – 15
Governance	Mansa Banko Online	March – 10

Name of Article	Theme	Periodical/ Publisher	Date of Publication
Post-liberation Africa and the quest for economic freedom	Governance	Good Governance Africa	March – 6
Why Kenya's recovery plans need to be gender- friendly	Public Policy	Business Daily	March – 5
Policy will spur film sector	Youth	Nation Africa	February – 15
Wisdom youth can glean from Kamala's book	Governance	Nation Africa	January – 27
States must join hands to resolve regional issues	Governance	Nation Africa	January – 6
Push for renewables: How Africa is building a different energy pathway	Energy	Africa Renewal	January – 6

In addition, The Youth Congress was privileged to interview various state and non-state actors in 2021. Some of the interviewees include:

Name of Article	Theme	Periodical/ Publisher	Date of Publication
UNEP boss: Covid-19 is a tragedy, but the world still faces bigger threats	Interview	Nation Africa	August – 2
lt is our duty to fight Covid-19 together, says Volkan Bozkir	Interview	Nation Africa	July-1
How U.N., business ties are firming up reproductive health in Kenya	Interview	Business Daily	April – 9
'The legacy of Wangari Maathai continues'	Interview	Africa Renewal	March–3

#### 2.4.4 Returns & Compliance

The organization is constantly improving on its weaknesses, sustaining strength areas, and making them better. It has done annual returns to N.G.O. Coordination Board, Audited account, Tax compliance, and regular reports for accountability and credibility.







# **3.0 Partnerships & Collaborations**

The Youth Congress worked in partnership and received technical and financial support from state and non-state actors. We are grateful for the support in the 2020/21 financial year.

#### **Partners**

Ford Foundation

Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung (KAS)

Kenya Community Development Foundation (K.C.D.F.)

**Our Youth Networks** 

### Impact of COVID 19

What started as a medical and health crisis in early 2020 that only affected a province in Asia morphed into what is now referred to as the COVID19. The novel virus has directly impacted social and economic life, changing the structure of global and national financial, political and economic institutions. In Kenya, the advent of COVID19 elicited a proactive response by both state and non-state actors.

Many Kenyans have demonstrated their patriotism and sense of responsibility by adhering to social distancing protocols, wearing face masks in public spaces, and observing hygiene measures. Compliance with the containment measures demonstrates the individual and collective civil responsibility to protect ourselves, family members, and other citizens. As a result, we have, together, contributed to slowing the spread of the coronavirus.

The Youth Congress has continued to play its part in mitigating the impact and spread of the virus. The organization scaled-down activities that necessitated physical interactions. There was full compliance with the MoH COVID19 guidelines where physical activities occurred. Moreover, the organization responded to the call for remote working.

I	Project/ Initiatives
(	Developing Next Generation Leaders: Growing youth to be leaders and active citizens
Ŋ	Youth participation in governance
6	mproving Livelihoods of Young Women and men, and Access to Opportunities for economic development
i e	Conceptualization, planning, mplementation and monitoring, and evaluation of programs of The Youth Congress

<sup>44</sup> Youth are reshaping the present, and creating a better future *1* 



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# 4.0 Fiscal Responsibility

THE YOUTH CONGRESS

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITOR** 

TO THE MEMBERS OF: THE YOUTH CONGRESS

We have audited the accompanying financial statements set out on page 6 to 13 of The Youth Congress which comprise the statement of financial position as at 30 September 2021, the income and expenditure statement, statement of change in capital fundsand statement of cash flows for the year then ended and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.

MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The Management Committeeis responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with generally accepted non-profit accounting principles and applicable international financial reporting standards, the Kenya Society's Act. This responsibility includes designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements that are free from material misstatements, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITY: Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those Standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal controls relevant to the entity's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of the accounting policies used and significant estimates made by the by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provides basis for our opinion.

**OPINION:** In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of financial position of the Society as at 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2021and of its financial performance and cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with generally accepted non-profit accounting principles and applicable international financial reporting standards.

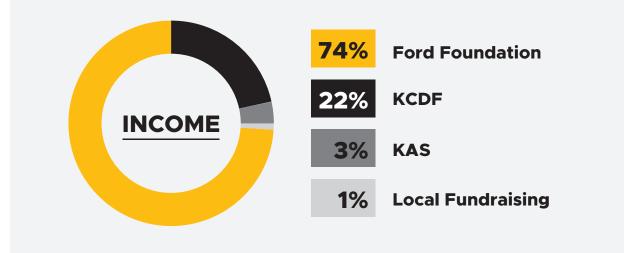
The Engagement partner responsible for the audit resulting in this independent auditor's report was CPA Samuel N. Kibe, Practising Certificate No. 1358.

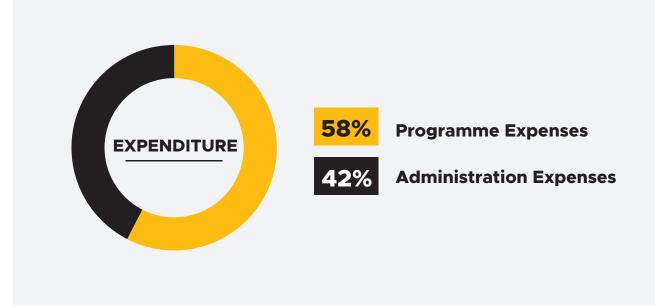
Kilee Hessolials 23-12-2021 Certified Public Accountants (K) P. O. Box 7426 - 002. Waigah

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