

COMMUNITY LEADERS DIALOGUES ON DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (DRR) AND GENDER INTERSECTIONALITY UNDER THE NAIROBI CITY RISK HUB, 2020

The Nairobi Risk Hub Secretariat (African Centre for Technology Studies -ACTS), the Africa Research and Impact Network, Nairobi City County Government (NCCG), and partners from Kenya and UK are jointly implementing the Multihazard project under the Tomorrow's Cities, which is a 5-year project funded by the UK Research and Innovations (UKRI) Global Challenges Research Fund (GCRF) to help reduce disaster risks for the poor in tomorrow's cities and to embed disaster risk management into urban planning by integrating resilience against extreme events, <https://tomorrowscities.org/>. The Nairobi Urban Risk Hub was launched on 6th May 2019 during which an official Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between ACTS & the Nairobi City County Government (NCCG) was signed. This formalized a collaborative engagement aimed at shifting the focus of hazard management in Nairobi city from a crisis/emergency response to integrated disaster management and urban planning system, and the resultant reduction of risks towards achieving sustainable development in Nairobi.

While most parts of Nairobi City are exposed to risks, the loss of life and livelihoods among the poor in the informal settlements is compounded by poverty and a fragile socio-economic status, poor land use planning, and a weak disaster risk governance. In the informal settlements in Nairobi City, often CBOs receive technical and resource support from Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), and development partners to deliver varied social and humanitarian support to the urban poor. CBOs play the intermediary role hence closer to the urban poor in the informal settlements in the cities. However, CBOs are at different levels in integrating gender in response to disaster risks in the informal settlements in Nairobi City.

As a delivery and impact pathway and a strategy to create a direct linkage between research, policy, and impact among the urban poor, the hub will facilitate CBOs in DRR dialogues and discussions monthly. This will bring together CBOs has drawn from Kibera, Mukuru, Mathare Valley, and Korogocho and will culminate into quarterly dialogues with NGOs, Nairobi City County, and DRR stakeholders. In the second phase of the dialogues, a comparative analysis will be done by inviting representatives from Urban CBOs for the discussions. The discussions and dialogues aim to Help Tomorrow's Cities researchers to understand perspectives and actions on DRR among the CBOs in their respective communities. Besides, this series of dialogues will also facilitate identification of capacity building gaps of CBOs and establish engendered community-based multihazard and DRR network or platform in the informal settlements in Nairobi City.

The expected outputs of these policy discussions and dialogues will augment the desk reviews of the role of CBOs in DRR and gender intersectionality in community-led DRR in the informal settlements in Nairobi City. The literature reviews, policy dialogues at City and community level, and fieldwork will be triangulated with modeling to inform the development of an integrated disaster management plan and policy, review of the Nairobi City Disaster & Emergency Management Act-2015, and integration of multihazard and DRR in the Special Plans for the informal settlements in Nairobi City County. This is

also projected to facilitate enhanced linkage between the physical and social sciences and community-based DRR actions in Nairobi City.

Objectives of the monthly community dialogues:

- I. To assess the participants' understanding of Multihazard & disaster risk reduction (DRR) in their CBOs and informal settlement
- II. To identify capacity building gaps in Multihazard & DRR among the CBOs
- III. To explore the role of gender mainstreaming and intersectionality on DRR in communities
- IV. To facilitate horizontal knowledge sharing between the CBOs, NGOs, and the county government on DRR
- V. To build a network of Community Based Multihazard & Disaster Risk Reduction Champions in Nairobi City

Expected Outputs:

- I. An inventory and database of CBOs in Nairobi informal settlements with accompanying programs they undertake to promote DRR in the informal settlements in Nairobi City
- II. Enhanced capacity on Multihazard and DRR among the CBOs in the informal settlements in Nairobi City
- III. A network of Multihazard and DRR champions (Community of Practice) in the informal settlements in Nairobi City to be linked to city processes and beyond.
- IV. Gender analysis toolkit for community-based Multihazard and DRR organizations in informal settlements.
- V. Multihazard and DRR diaries and newsletter.