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# HALF-YEAR REPORT

- Peace Building
- Early Childhood Development
- Sport Development
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- Women Empowerment

PEACE FOR DEVELOPMENT REFUGEES INITIATIVE  
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## **HALF-YEAR REPORT (JANUARY TO JUNE 2024)**

### **PREAMBLE**

Welcome to the mid-year report of PDRI, where we reflect on our progress and achievements in advancing our mission across key areas of peace building, early childhood development, sport, and women empowerment. In the past six months, we have navigated challenges, capitalized on opportunities, and remained steadfast in our commitment to creating positive change in our communities.

Through our initiatives in peace building, we have fostered dialogue, reconciliation, and understanding among diverse groups, contributing to stability and harmony in Kakuma refugee camp. Our efforts in early childhood development have focused on laying strong foundations for the future, ensuring every child has access to quality education, nutrition, and healthcare essential for their growth. In the realm of sport, we have utilized its transformative power to promote social inclusion, health, and youth development. By engaging with communities through sports activities, we have encouraged teamwork, leadership skills, and a sense of belonging among participants. Moreover, our dedication to women empowerment has been unwavering. We empower women economically, and advocate for their rights and participation in decision-making processes.

This report encapsulates our achievements, challenges encountered, lessons learned, and the impact of our interventions thus far. It is a testament to the dedication of our team, the resilience of our beneficiaries, and the support of our partners and stakeholders who continue to journey with us towards a more equitable and prosperous future.

We invite you to explore the following pages to delve deeper into the stories, data, and outcomes that highlight the transformative impact of our collective efforts in building stronger, healthier, and more inclusive communities

### **I. PEACE BUILDING**



## **Introduction:**

PDRI initiated a project Called Community Leaders Platform project aims to foster peace and cooperation among diverse communities within Kakuma refugee camp. Initiated in 2019, the project faced logistical challenges until December of last year when Mr. Roberto Vale, a volunteer from Brazil joined the effort, significantly advancing its development.

## **Achievements:**

### **Needs Assessment and Planning:**

- Conducted a comprehensive needs assessment with community leaders from 12 nationalities to identify types of conflicts, core cultural practices, conflict resolution mechanisms, and suggestions for conflict reduction.
- Enhancing the understanding and commitment of community leaders by outlining the benefits of the Community Leaders 'Platform initiated by PDRI.

### **Establishment of the Community Leaders Platform:**

- Organized a large meeting involving all community leaders to consolidate findings from individual nationality meetings.
- Collaboratively drafted a constitution to guide the platform's operations and decision-making processes.
- Successfully facilitated the signing of the constitution by community leaders, ensuring their endorsement and ownership of the platform.

### **Project Development and Expansion:**

- Currently in the process of introducing the Community Leaders Platform to relevant organizations and the Kenyan government.
- Seeking partnerships and support to scale the project's impact and reach within Kakuma refugee camp.

## **Objectives Achieved:**

- **Unity Among refugees:** Fostered a unified voice among refugees through the platform, promoting solidarity and collective action.
- **Conflict Mediation:** Equipped community leaders as well as PDRI members with skills to mediate and resolve conflicts between different nationalities within the camp.
- **Cultural Integration:** Initiated social and cultural activities to disseminate messages of peace and encourage positive interactions between diverse communities.

## **Challenges and Next Steps:**

- **Logistical Constraints:** Historically faced challenges due to logistical limitations, which were partially overcome with the support of Mr. Roberto Vale and Laura Spoor.
- **Sustainability:** Focus on securing ongoing support and resources to sustain and expand the platform's activities.

- **Government and Stakeholder Engagement:** Continued efforts to engage the Kenyan government and relevant organizations to garner support and ensure alignment with broader peace-building efforts.

### **Conclusion:**

The first half of the year has been marked by significant progress in establishing the Community Leaders Platform as a pivotal initiative for peace building within Kakuma refugee camp. With foundational steps completed, including needs assessment, constitution elaboration, and stakeholder engagement, the project is poised to make a lasting impact on fostering peaceful cohabitation and positive interactions among the diverse communities residing in the camp.

As we move forward, the project remains committed to its mission of empowering community leaders, promoting cultural understanding, and facilitating conflict resolution, thereby contributing to a harmonious and inclusive environment within Kakuma refugee camp.

This report serves as a testament to the dedication and collaboration of all involved stakeholders, laying the groundwork for continued success and impact in the months to come.

### **Next Steps:**

- Expand outreach and engagement efforts with additional stakeholders.
- Implement peace-building activities outlined in the platform's constitution.
- Monitor and evaluate impact and adjust strategies as needed.
- Secure sustainable funding and resources to support ongoing operations and growth.

## **II. EARLY CHILDHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM (ECD)**



### **Introduction:**

In the first half of the year, PDRI has continued its mission to provide comprehensive early childhood development education to children aged 3 to 7 and 8 to 11 years old. Our curriculum encompasses essential skills such as Writing, Reading, Calculation, Drawing, Painting, Singing, Dancing and Storytelling, aimed at nurturing well-rounded individuals.

## Challenges Faced:

Despite our efforts, we have encountered significant challenges that have impacted our operations and outcomes:

1. **Lack of Suitable Learning Spaces:** The absence of proper classrooms has resulted in children learning in suboptimal conditions, often sitting on the ground.
2. **Motivation and Attendance of Facilitators:** Our facilitators have faced motivational issues and occasional absenteeism due to the necessity of seeking additional income.
3. **Inadequate Training Materials:** The insufficient availability of educational materials has hindered our ability to deliver high-quality lessons.
4. **Nutritional Needs:** Many children have been unable to attend classes regularly due to hunger, as they often have access to only one meal per day at home.

## Achievements:

Despite these challenges, we have achieved several milestones:

- **Educational Impact:** We have successfully engaged and provided education to 100 children over the past six months, equipping them with foundational skills crucial for their development.
- **Community Engagement:** We have actively communicated with parents, visiting their homes to understand reasons for absenteeism and offering support where possible.
- **Insight into Challenges:** Through these interactions, we have identified hunger as a significant barrier to consistent attendance among our students.

## Next Steps:

Moving forward, our organization is committed to:

- **Improving Learning Environments:** Securing or improving classroom spaces to enhance the learning experience for our students.
- **Supporting Facilitators:** Implementing measures to enhance motivation and reduce absenteeism among our facilitators, possibly through incentive programs or professional development opportunities.
- **Enhancing Material Resources:** Acquiring and maintaining adequate educational materials to facilitate effective teaching and learning.
- **Addressing Nutritional Needs:** Exploring partnerships or programs to provide nutritious snacks or meals to ensure children are adequately nourished and able to participate fully in our programs.

## Conclusion:

In conclusion, despite the challenges faced, our organization remains steadfast in its commitment to promoting early childhood development. By addressing these critical areas of improvement, we aim to continue making a positive impact on the lives of children within our community.

This report serves as a testament to our dedication and determination to overcome obstacles and provide quality education and support to children in their formative years.

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This report outline emphasizes the achievements, challenges, and proposed actions to address shortcomings in a structured manner, demonstrating the organization's ongoing commitment to enhancing early childhood development initiatives

### **III. SPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**



#### **Introduction**

Peace for Development Refugees Initiative continues its commitment to empowering children through sports, focusing on football and dodgeball for youths under 15 years old. This report covers the progress, challenges, and future plans of our initiatives in Kakuma refugee camp.

#### **Football Academy Progress**

The football academy initiative, launched last year, aims to nurture children's talents and provide them with opportunities often overlooked in refugee settings. The initiative was sparked by the realization that existing sports programs primarily cater to adults, neglecting the potential of younger generations. By fostering football clubs, PDRI seeks to redirect children towards fulfilling careers aligned with their talents.

- **Achievements:**

Last year, PDRI established 20 football clubs involving a total of 600 children. Organized leagues were conducted to identify promising talents for the Football Academy. From these efforts, 72 standout players were identified, with the top 32 selected as direct beneficiaries of the academy.

- **Challenges:**

Significant logistical challenges hindered our operations, including shortages of balls, jerseys, boots, and refreshments, which impacted the regularity of league activities. Despite these hurdles, efforts are ongoing to secure necessary resources and streamline operations.

- **Current Activities:**

We are currently preparing for this year's competitions by printing player cards for all 20 teams. Additionally, efforts to extend the project to include female football clubs in Kakuma 4 are underway, reflecting our commitment to gender inclusivity.

- **Future Plans:**

Moving forward, PDRI aims to enhance the sustainability and inclusivity of the Football Academy, ensuring continuous support for identified talents while addressing logistical constraints.

## **Dodgeball Initiative**

In April of this year, PDRI partnered with the World Dodgeball Federation to introduce dodgeball as a new sporting endeavor in East Africa, with Kakuma refugee camp as a primary focus.

- **Initiation and Partnerships:**

The project commenced with feasibility studies and resource mobilization efforts. Recently, PDRI began an online training program for four coaches, with plans for subsequent in-person training sessions facilitated by an International Dodgeball Federation coach.

- **Goals:**

The introduction of dodgeball aims to diversify sporting opportunities for youths in the camp, promoting physical fitness and social interaction among participants. Also it promotes the innovation as this sport has never existed in Kakuma refugee camp.

## **Conclusion**

PDRI remains dedicated to leveraging sports as a tool for youth empowerment and community cohesion in Kakuma refugee camp. Through sustained efforts in football and the introduction of dodgeball, we continue to identify and support young talents while promoting peace and social integration among refugee youth.

This half-year report reflects our ongoing commitment and the challenges we face, underscoring our determination to overcome obstacles and achieve sustainable impact in the lives of children under our care.



#### **IV. INFORMATION COMPUTER TECHNOLOGY (ICT)**



##### **1. Introduction:**

The Information Computer Technology (ICT) PDRI in partnership with the Lutheran World Federation has made significant strides in the first half of 2024. This report outlines the activities, achievements, challenges faced, and the impact on beneficiaries during the period from January to June 2024.

##### **1. Partnership and Support:**

With support from the Lutheran World Federation, PDRI has been conducting ICT training sessions at Bidii Center. The center has provided a conducive space for our activities, facilitating effective learning environments for our beneficiaries.

##### **2. Beneficiaries Trained:**

During the reporting period, a total of 105 beneficiaries have been trained. These beneficiaries come from diverse backgrounds and have gained valuable skills in computer basis and learned the packages among others Introduction to computer, Keyboarding, Windows, Ms Word, Ms Excel, Ms PowerPoint and Ms Publisher.

##### **4. Achievements:**

- **Grant from Vanderbilt University:**

One of the notable achievements during this period was the successful acquisition of a grant from Vanderbilt University. This grant has been instrumental in:

- Introducing a new ICT curriculum facilitated by Aryan Garg from the USA.
- Purchasing necessary training materials and furniture.
- Construction of a new dedicated computer lab, enhancing the training infrastructure significantly.

- **Enhanced Curriculum:**

The introduction of the new ICT curriculum facilitated by Aryan Garg has enriched the training program, aligning it with current industry standards and global best practices in ICT education.



## 5. Challenges Faced:

Despite the progress, the ICT program has encountered several challenges:

- **Limited Training Capacity:**

Due to financial constraints, the organization has been unable to appoint additional trainers. This limitation has resulted in one trainer not being able to handle multiple classes simultaneously, potentially impacting the scalability of the training program.

- **Incapability to appoint a Security Guard and a Cleaner:**

The organization has not been able to appoint a Security Guard for the safety of ICT materials during the day and night also incapable to appoint a Cleaner for the cleanliness of the Computer Lab due to limitation of financial means.

## 6. Future Directions:

Looking ahead, PDRI aims to address the challenges by seeking additional funding opportunities to expand the training capacity. Efforts will focus on:

- Securing more grants and partnerships to sustain and grow the ICT program.
- Exploring innovative ways to optimize the use of existing resources, such as leveraging technology for remote learning or blended training approaches.

## 7. Conclusion:

In conclusion, the ICT program has made commendable progress in empowering beneficiaries with essential ICT skills. The partnership with the Lutheran World Federation and the support from Vanderbilt University have been pivotal in achieving these milestones. As we continue into the second half of 2024 PDRI remains committed to overcoming challenges and expanding its impact in the field of Information Computer Technology education.

This report serves as a testament to the dedication and collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved in advancing ICT education and creating opportunities for growth and development in our community.

## V. WOMEN EMPOWERMENT



In the past six months, our organization has been actively engaged in empowering vulnerable women in Kakuma Refugee Camp through various initiatives aimed at fostering economic independence and sustainability. Our focus has been on women who face significant challenges such as widows, single mothers, lady mothers, and disabled women. These women are often marginalized and struggle to meet the basic needs of their families.

### **Assessment and Identification of Beneficiaries**

Our efforts began with a comprehensive assessment to identify women who have shown potential to improve their livelihoods through small income-generating activities. We identified 150 beneficiaries who demonstrated a keen interest and capability in activities such as farming (especially greens cultivation), tailoring, running small restaurants, and selling small items in local markets. These activities were chosen based on their potential to provide sustainable income and improve household welfare.

### **Capacity Building Initiatives**

Following the identification phase, we implemented capacity building programs tailored to the needs of each group. Our training sessions focused on equipping women with essential business management skills, including financial literacy, market analysis, customer relations, and basic accounting. These skills are crucial for ensuring the success and sustainability of their small enterprises.

### **Challenges Faced**

Despite their determination and newfound skills, our beneficiaries continue to face significant challenges, primarily related to limited access to capital. Many women lack the initial funds required to start or expand their businesses, which hampers their ability to maximize income potential. As a result, their income remains insufficient to fully meet the needs of their families, perpetuating cycles of poverty and dependency.

### **Recommendations and Next Steps**

Throughout our interactions with the beneficiaries, a consistent recommendation has emerged: the need for access to affordable loans. Access to capital would enable these women to invest in their businesses, purchase necessary equipment and supplies, and expand their operations. This, in turn, would increase their income generation capacity and improve their overall economic stability.

In response to this crucial need, our organization is actively engaging with potential donors to explore funding opportunities that would support the provision of small loans to our beneficiaries. We believe that access to microfinance will not only empower these women economically but also contribute to the broader community's resilience and development.

### **Conclusion**

In conclusion, our organization remains committed to empowering vulnerable women in Kakuma refugee camp by providing them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and support to engage in sustainable income-generating activities. Despite the challenges they face, these women have shown

incredible resilience and determination to improve their lives and support their families. With continued support and investment in their potential, we are confident that they will achieve greater economic independence and contribute positively to their communities.

We express our sincere gratitude to all our partners, donors, and stakeholders who continue to support our mission of empowering women in Kakuma Refugee Camp.

Done in Kakuma on 30<sup>th</sup> June 2024

**FOR PDRI**

**PASCAL B. AMISI**



**CHAIRPERSON**

