Haki Nawiri Afrika Updates

Welcome to the 1st Edition of Haki Nawiri Afrika Updates. This update showcases university students and community engagement from June 2020 – February 2021.

The highlighted activities include human rights training, paralegal training, student-police dialogues, psychosocial support and student-community engagement.

Shrinking Civic Space



The represented universities and communities in this engagement are: University of Nairobi, (UoN)
Kenyatta University (KU), Masinde Muliro
University of Science and Technology (MMUST),
Multi-Media University (MMU), Jomo Kenyatta
University of Science and Technology (JKUAT) and
South Eastern University of Kenya (SEKU), Mathare Social
Justice Centre, Dandora Social Justice Centre and Kiambiu Social Justice and

Information Centre and Kenyan Peasant League.





Updates Compiled by: Leonida Odongo and Simon Ouma



Online Dialogues

From June 2020 to December 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika organised a series of online dialogues on human rights, legal empowerment and social justice. These dialogues brought together actors from different countries including Malaysia, Guatemala, USA, Kenya, Uganda, Tunisia, Lebanon, Tanzania, Sri-Lanka,

Nigeria and Canada. These forums discussed climate change, food sovereignty and movement building. The organisation was also represented in platforms organised by partners.

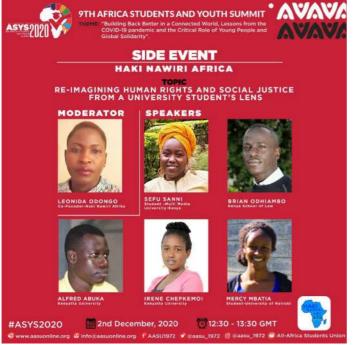
#CampusMeToo Webinar

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the webinar organised by Kenyatta University, one student was a speaker during the webinar. The discussion focused on sexual harassment, statistics on sexual harassment within institutions of higher learning, impacts of the harassment and how to prevent sexual harassment. The convening also discussed a toolkit that students can utilise in addressing various elements of sexual harassment within universities. One Haki Nawiri Afrika member was a speaker at the webinar.



9th Africa Students and Youth Summit

Students from University of Nairobi, Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA) and Kenya School of Law



participated in the forum. The panellists discussed inequality and Covid 19 and how the pandemic has exhibited deepening inequalities and role of young people in addressing this gap, how Covid 19 has suspended access to justice, what needs to be done to ensure access to justice in the second wave of Covid 19 and how young people can help advance justice in communities, perspective on Covid 19 as a disruptor and how it has impacted mental health issues and role of young people in enhancing preparedness when countering a pandemic which is a justice issue and a health issue.

School Re-opening: The Good and the Bad

The forum discussed existing challenges on access to education especially for marginalised groups such as



systems was discussed.

children living in informal settlements and pastoralist communities the inequality with regards to gadgets to support online learning and how prepared schools were given the inadequacy of basic infrastructure such as desks, clean water and classrooms.

Global Food Systems and Food sovereignty

Upon the invitation of Uprooted and Rising¹ (Seattle), Haki Nawiri Afrika's shared perspectives on combating big Food's influence on local food systems across the globe. The Kenyan situation with in relation to global food



Ecopolis 2020

On 18 October 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the Ecopolis2020 discussion on agroecology, importance of agroecology for Africa as well as existing challenges and opportunities. The dialogue also focused on Alliance for Food in Africa perspectives on agroecology. The link to the discussion is as follows: https://vimeo.com/470613171

Transition to a fair agroecology

Agricultural soils are eroding, biodiversity is declining alarmingly. Fortunately, we see new agro-ecological farmers emerge. Through shortchain they restore contact with consumers while also taking care of the surrounding nature. The challenge is to make these innovative practices the new normal.

A conversation with Louis De Jaeger (landscape architect), Marjolein Visser (professor agricultural systems, agroecology and plant breeding), Lisa Tostado (Head of International Climate, Energy & Agriculture Policy Programme at Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung EU) and Leonida Odongo (Kenyan social justice activist).

Subsequently: spoken word intervention by Yousra Benfquih (lawyer poet and columnist).

Feminist alternatives: Agroecology for Food Sovereignty and Solidary Economy

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the World March of Women (WMW) Feminist Alternatives: Agroecology for Food Sovereignty and Solidarity Economy. The dialogue discussed the practice of agroecology, benefits and process of nurturing solidarity economies focused on food production. The dialogue analysed the politics of food including corporate capture of African food systems.

¹ https://www.uprootedandrising.org/

Shrinking Civic Spaces: A View from the Global South

A dialogue was organised focusing on shrinking civic space. The dialogue represented experiences from Uganda's repression of democratic space on the citizenry including specific challenges facing the youth during lockdown, experiences from Tanzania deliberated on freedom of expression under siege, from Kenya, the dialogue discussed the challenges faced by women in a pandemic and the restricted movement, rising cases of

eting ID: 280 785 9510

on Mugisha Eman

Moderators will be Leonida Odongo and

Sharon Ndeto

st July 2020, at 2 pm to 4 pm

The panelists include

All are welcome!!!

ndrew Young, Kenya

eonida Odongo, Ken

oniface Maina, Kenya



Gender Based Violence(GBV) brought about by lack of coping mechanisms within household and disrupted sources of incomes, and how women in informal settlements were organising to push back various forms of Covid 19 occasioned oppressions.

The dialogue further explored impact of Covid 19 on youth in informal settlements in Nairobi who in addition to the pandemic suffer from a pandemic of criminalisation of poverty.

Movement Building and International Solidarity Against Injustice

The dialogue discussed what are movements, different types of movements (students, farmers, women

movements among others) and the roles movements can play in ensuring access to justice for the poor and marginalised.

The forum brought together social justice actors from Kenya, USA, Canada and Guatemala and provided shared experience of access to justice from the perspective of social justice centres, experiences of movements such as Black Lives Matter and Black for Palestine, deliberations on women's movement utilising online technology to mobilise and organise the case of World Pulse. Thee moderators for the Movement Building Dialogue were students from Catholic University of Eastern Africa and Kampala International University.



Food Justice: Navigating the New Normal

as a race to nowhere experiences of how Health of Mother Earth Foundation(HOMEF) in Nigeria is creating consciousness on danger of GMOs among farmers and consumers, agroecology as a form of nature based solution and how agroecology contributes to addressing climate emergency and food crisis, the use of appropriate technology in advancing agroecology and how this is working in Sri-Lanka, food justice in the context of occupied territories specifically experiences from Palestine and Tunisia, challenges facing farmers and consumers in the middle east, seed sovereignty experiences from Tanzania and why it is important for farmers to reclaim their power over seeds.

This dialogue focused on Genetically Modified Organisms(GMOs) in Africa

Human Rights in the Midst of a Pandemic

DATE: TUESDAY, 9 JUNE 2020

SAMIRA KHALFI TOPIC FOOD JUSTICE IN

HTTPS://USDINIE 100M USJ/1211116073

V4@

OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

The dialogue discussed human rights in informal settlements, access to justice in a pandemic, repression and how different communities are impacted and the use of art and music to counter human rights abuse and oppression during the Covid 19 pandemic.

TUSTICE:NOD
THE NEW NORMAL

ELIUD MATHAYO TOPICSELLING AFRICA'S SEED SOVEREIGNIY UNDER SIEGE

TERRITORIES

Impact of Covid 19 on the SDGs: Challenges and **Opportunities**

Organised by Club17 the dialogues focused on how Covid 19 has affected various elements such as education, health, housing and access to justice.





Meeting ID: 84141862526

World Environment Day

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented in the Alliance for Food Sovereignty (AFSA) celebration of



World Environmental Day. The participation was through online engagements on twitter using the hashtag #Agroecology4Nature.

Human Rights Training

Haki Nawiri Afrika organised a Human Rights training from 8 to 10 October 2020 at Kaloleni Church of God

in Nairobi. The training was under the Shrinking Civic Spaces in Institutions of Higher learning supported by Rosa Luxemburg Stiftung-Regional Office for East Africa.

The represented organisations were: University of Nairobi, Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Kenyatta University, Zetec University, Masinde Muliro University of Science and Technology(MMUST), Dandora Social Justice Centre, Mathare Social Justice Centre, Kiambiu Social



Justice and Information Network, South Eastern Kenya University(SEKU), Eastern Deanery Aids Relief Program, Legal Resources Foundation(LRF), Resource and Awareness Training Centre, Coalition of Grassroots Human Rights Defenders, Kenyan Peasants League and Feminist Justice and Peace Centre.

The human rights training aimed to:

- Enable students to understand human rights;
- Enhance the capacity of students to access justice;
- Transfer skills to enable effective handling of human rights abuse in institutions of higher learning and communities;
- Build the capacity of students to solve and respond to community problems and
- Develop skills and knowledge of students to contribute to solving community problems

Experience sharing on student activism



The training discussed human rights, mapping different struggles in Kenya, movement building, student activism, community organising and advocacy.





Voices on the Human Rights Training

noppresenty, dignity and humersity opercy Mbatia, Student University Nercy.

"Our lives begin to become silent matter" Alfred Kenyatta University

"The human rights training
"The human rights training
was a great experience in
meeting with a very open
meeting with a very open
minded group from which I
meeting and activism,
feminism, activism,
feminism,

Paralegal training

The paralegal training was organised from 3-4 October 2020. The represented universities were: University of Nairobi (UoN), Catholic University of Eastern Africa (CUEA), Kenyatta University (KU), Zetec University, South Eastern Kenya University (SEKU), Daystar University, Kenya School of Law, Multi-Media University (MMU), Mathare Social Justice Centre, Kiambiu Social Justice Centre, Dandora Social Justice Centre, Kenyan Peasants League, World March of Women and Eastern Africa



Child Rights Network (EACRN).In the training, participants learned about basic laws, role of paralegals, Alternative Dispute Resolution(ADR),advocacy, property and inheritance rights, gender and development, governance and advocacy. The participants also learnt practical skills in justice process including plea bargaining, plea agreement and rights of an accused person.

Navigating the justice terrain



Paralegal training



Psychosocial support and student resilience building

The objectives of the psychosocial sessions were to enable students share in a safe space issues affecting them, provide support and referrals to address issues affecting students, create an enabling environment for students to open up on issues affecting them without fear of judgement. In the dialogues. In these sessions, students also shared both the negative and positive impacts of Covid 19 on their lives. These included loss of loved ones, loss of jobs for parents and guardians, anxiety and fear, adjusting to online classes.

The positives included spending more time with family and bonding with siblings, being more focused and nurturing new talents. On the resilience building and psychosocial support sessions, students expected:

- To learn how to cope with life
- To understand how to accept situations
- To be better at decision making
- To learn from one another

Fears among students in institutions of higher learning

The psychosocial support session unearthed the various fears that university students have these are:



- Living a life of poverty
- Suffering/poverty
- What the future holds
- Graduating and not getting a iob
- Fear of death
- Not achieving one's dreams
- Fear of falling in love
- Experience of hunger (not having adequate food)
- Financial insecurity (being auctioned)

- Fear of losing people (loved ones)
- Fear of creepy animals (cockroaches)
- Marrying the wrong person
- Fear of being judged
- Unforeseen events
- Death
- Challenge of self-identity
- Living with a wrong soulmate

The students were taken through practical steps in addressing their fears and how to nurture emotional intelligence as a coping mechanism.

Student-Police Dialogue

In conjunction with Catholic University of Eastern Africa-Student Affairs and students from Kenyatta University, Haki Nawiri Afrika organised two Student-Police dialogue to discuss the justice process, students' experience in Kenya's justice system, challenges facing university students in the justice process and building meaningful relations among university students and the police. Institutions represented were Deputy Officer Commanding Station (OCS)-Hardy Police and the OCS – Kiwanja Police Post. Students from Catholic University of Eastern Africa, Multi- Media University(MMU), Dandora Social Justice Centre, Legal Resources Foundation and Kenya School of Law, University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University.







Student-police Dialogue-Kenyatta university



"I never knew I could sit with a police officer and discuss issues-Daniel Wanyama, student leader , Department of Education-Kenyatta University

Student Voices on Advocacy issues and challenges facing communities

Haki Nawiri Afrika organised a session to discuss advocacy issues affecting students in institutions of higher learning and how to address the emerging issues. The students also shared key justice and human rights challenges facing different communities.





Meetings and Conferences

On 13 February 2021, Haki Nawiri Afrika members were among 30 environmental champions within Nairobi, lobbying the Kenyan government against cutting down of trees along Uhuru Highway to pave way for the Nairobi Expressway². The champions developed key messages and put them on the trees to show the importance of trees for current and future generations.



Lobbying for Trees and the future

² https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XGpxGeDp59s

Post 2020 New Biodiversity Framework

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the Rallying Voices for biodiversity convening at the Youth



Environmental Assembly 2021, organised by the Global Youth Biodiversity Network. The online forum was held on 20 February 2021. The forum discussed a Post 2020-New Biodiversity Framework, existing challenges to biodiversity and what needs to be done to reverse these negative impacts. The convening also discussed youth engagement in championing biodiversity including policy engagements at the local, national, regional and global

levels .Haki Nawiri Afrika was also represented at the ECOSOC Youth Forum which focused on reviewing Agenda 2030.Haki Nawiri Afrika was further represented in a dialogue discussing environmental impact of Covid 19 and what needs to be done to address these challenges including the central role of biodiversity in tacking emergence of zoonotic³ diseases.

Youth Environment Assembly

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the Youth Environment Assembly (YEA) 2021 held from 12-13 February 2021. Topics deliberated on included how youth can influence policy, youth dialogue with

member states, youth and faith based engagement, science policy, chemicals and waste and environmental law.

47Th session of the World Committee on World Food Security (CFS47)

Haki Nawiri Afrika was



represented in two side events namely "Upholding integrated, participatory and inclusive food systems governance through the CFS and UN Food System Summit processes" and "Implementing the UN Decade

³ Zoonosis is an infection disease that has jumped from non-human animals to humans. Zoonotic pathogens can be bacterial, viral or parasitic and can spread to humans through direct contact or through food, water or the environment.

of Family Farming (UNDFF) to face Covid 19 and achieve resilient and sustainable livelihoods held in February 2020. CFS47 took place from 8-11 February 2021.



Upholding integrated participatory and inclusive food systems governance session was organised by Global Alliance for the Future of Food, Agroecology Fund, IPES Food, Dominican Republic and SDGs Advocacy Hub. The event focused on what type of governance systems are needed to ensure transition to sustainable food

systems. The forum also emphasized the importance of technology that is supportive to smallholder farmers and the importance of tackling corporate capture of food systems and the rationale for radical overhaul of government policies to achieve sustainable food systems. Link to the CFS47 is: http://www.fao.org/cfs/home/en/

Oxford Real Food Conference

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the Oxford Real Food Conference (ORFC) which took place from 7-13 January 2021. The forum discussed food, markets and nature. Link to the convening is as follows: https://orfc.org.uk/



ORFC Global Recordings Now Available

THE CONFERENCE

Events

Contact

ORFC

2021

7 - 13 January 2021

https://orfc.org.uk/session/taking-agroecology-marketing-and-enterprises-forward-in-africa/,



Democracy and Human Rights in a Lockdown

Haki Nawiri Afrika members were represented at the Democracy and Rights Festival held at Alliance Francaise in Nairobi. The festival (musicians, spoken word) to deliberate on human rights and democracy in the context of a



lockdown and injustices facing communities.

5th Paris Agreement Anniversary

Haki Nawiri Afrika members participated in the 5th Anniversary of the Paris Agreement⁴, a convening organised by Catholic University of Eastern Africa. The dialogue discussed Kenya's commitment to the Paris Agreement, existing gaps, contradictions in relation to reducing emissions. The dialogue also discussed coal mining proposed in Mui Basin in Kitui

Lamu⁵, the negative impacts of coal mining from health, economic and environmental



perspectives. The forum further discussed advocacy initiatives on environmental protection by Deacolonize Network.

Media Training



Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at a media training organised by Heinrich Boll Stiftung(HBS) under the Route to Food project. The aim was to equip participants with skills on how to conduct media interviews and how to effectively communicate about issues.

First Virtual African Assembly of Inhabitants

On 5 October 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the First Virtual African Assembly of Inhabitants. The forum discussed evictions as an injustice during Covid 19 pandemic period and how the pandemic was

worsening housing and land tenure systems across many African countries. The objective of the dialogue was to promote trans-continental dialogues between social movements. The dialogue organised on 5 October 2020 which is the World Habitat Day, aimed to build internationalist solidarity at the global level to mobilise progressive forces to remind African policy makers that housing rights are human rights.

CALL TO THE FIRST VIRTUAL AFRICAN ASSEMBLY OF



INHABITANTS Monday 5 October 2020

⁴ https://unfccc.int/process-and-meetings/the-paris-agreement/the-paris-agreement

⁵ https://whc.unesco.org/en/list/1055/

Climate Action Validation Meeting

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the Climate Action Validation Meeting held on 26 November 2020, by 4 participants (3 students from University of Nairobi and Kenyatta University). The meeting was organised by Regional Permaculture Colleges Programme (RESCOPE) in collaboration with the Alliance for Food Sovereignty in Africa(AFSA).



The objectives of the meeting were:

- Create an understanding of existing climate change related policies, plans, strategies, regulations and frameworks at national level.
- Identify critical entry points for mainstreaming agro ecology within the identified policy frameworks.
- Propose approaches to guide the integration of agro ecology in the national legislation and frameworks identified.

Law students and the coordinator Mathare Legal Aid and Advocacy Awareness at the Climate Action Validation meeting

36th Virtual Session of the Committee on Rights and Welfare of the Child

On 21 November 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented at the 36th Virtual Session of Committee on Rights and Welfare of the Child. The meeting was both virtual and physical. During the meeting, dialogues were held between children from various parts of the African continent. Children analysed how individual governments have implemented protocols

ratified in the interest of children rights. Emerging issues from the convening revolved around Covid 19 pandemic.



Participants at the 36th Virtual Session of the Committee on Rights and Welfare of the Child





Forum on the Participation of NGOs in the 67th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights

From 9-11 November 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented in the Forum on the Participation of NGOs in the 67th Ordinary Session of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights. The forum focused Covid 19, human rights and good governance and the experiences of human rights violations in different African countries in the wake of Covid 19.



Sexual and Reproductive Health Rights

Students from Kenyatta university part of Haki Nawiri Afrika participated in developing a document from a desktop research on teenage pregnancy and motherhood. There was a reported increase in number of teenage pregnancies⁶ linked to Covid 19 and school closures directive.





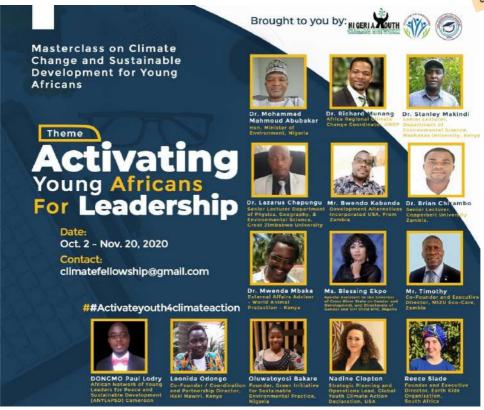
⁶ https://www.globalcitizen.org/en/content/rise-in-teenage-pregnancies-during-kenya-lockdown/

Climate Change and Sustainable Development for Youth Africans

On 23 October 2020, Haki Nawiri Afrika was invited by Nigeria Youth Climate Network to present at the Masterclass on Climate Change and Sustainable Development for Young Africans. The presentation made focused on Climate change and cross cutting issues including social justice human rights and gender. This platform enabled cross learning, unlearning and nurturing new alliances.



Speakers at the Climate Change Masterclass



Community Engagement

Trained community members and students continued to utilise skills gained from the training to amplify injustices in the community, make follow ups and speak out against injustice. Other activities carried out include organising sensitisation sessions at the community level and the use of art to create awareness on human rights and social justice. Examples of these include participation in the Global *Usawa*⁷
Festival 2021.

⁷ Usawa is a Kiswahili word for equality



KgzHeavyweight -An artiste from Dandora trained by Haki Nawiri Afrika on paralegalism in November 2020.



Two students from Kenyatta University and University of Nairobi visited Sanaa Centre⁸ in Mathare and were hosted by Anthem Republic – a local artise, based in Nairobi.The aim of the visit was to understand social justice organising using art.It was an opportunity to learn from progressive artistes on their views on social justice.

World Condom Day 2021

On 13 February 2021, students celebrated World Condom Day at Eastleigh in Nairobi alongside other sexual and reproductive health advocates.



Art for social justice



Tackling community problems

Community members and university students trained by Haki Nawiri Afrika on paralegalism and human rights are utilising knowledge gained to sensitise community members on legal rights for example rights of an accused person, property and inheritance rights such as title deeds issuing activity at Ushurika Primary School in Dandora -Nairobi.

⁸ https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SLcUNzKASkU

At the same time , the community memberss are nurturing positive relationships with police and local administratiaon within their communities for effective service delivery and to prevent injustices. Othe activities organised by students to strengthen student-community engagement include organising debates on current issues affecting Kenyan citizenry such as the Building Bridges Initiative (BBI).





Community forums



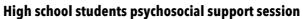
Mentorship and Counselling of High School Students

On 9 January 2021, three students from Catholic University of Eastern Africa organised a counseling and mentoring for students at St. Francis Mang'u Girls High School in preparation for the beginning of the term.



The students were resuming school after a country-wide learning institutions closure in March 2020. The 9-month school break negatively affected students including performance, and brought a lot of anxiety. The counselling provided a platform for the students to share their anxieties and be redirected to a learning mode. The fun games enabled students to bond with each other.

The counseling and mentorship session reached a total of 320 students.







Additional meetings

Haki Nawiri Afrika was represented in meetings highighed below:

- 3-5 October 2020: Media Training:
 How to Conduct TV and Radio
 Interviews
- 12 November 2020: Engaging Young women and men in rural land and agriculture development and resilience building in the face of Covid 19

- 20 November 2020: Ukombozi Library: A
 Discussion on Food and GMOs
- 12 November 20202: Sustainable
 Production and Consumption Seminar
- 3-5 November 2020: Training on Meaningful Youth Participation