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REPORT

ON

PHASE 1

LEGAL AWARENESS WEEK 2023

#FromBarsToJustice

“Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid”

Prepared by:

LAW SOCIETY OF KENYA

#BarsToJustice



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1 INTRODUCTION

The Law Society of Kenya (LSK), a professional statutory body established under the Law Society of Kenya Act, 2014, conducted the Legal Awareness Week (LAW) 2023, a transformative initiative spanning three months with a focus on promoting access to justice, legal education, and addressing prison congestion. This comprehensive approach aligns with LSK's mission to advance the rule of law, uphold the Constitution of Kenya, and promote the rights of imprisoned persons and the underprivileged public. The initiative also seeks to engage both state and non-state actors in criminal justice reforms. The event was executed in two phases, with Phase 1 taking place from October 1st to October 31st, 2023.

2 BACKGROUND



In the pursuit of its mission, LSK has consistently observed the growing number of cases brought before the Kenyan courts and the subsequent rise in the number of individuals imprisoned for minor crimes. The

challenges posed by the overcrowding of correctional facilities in Kenya, combined with the need to protect the rights of incarcerated individuals and the underprivileged public, have compelled LSK to embark on a crucial mission to facilitate Criminal Justice Reforms. These reforms aim to address the rights of prisoners and, in turn, potentially decongest the nation's prisons.

In 2023, the Law Society of Kenya adopted a proactive and transformative approach to realize its objectives by organizing an annual Legal Aid Awareness week, which was executed under the theme: "Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid." The initiative aimed to address prison overcrowding, promote

legal awareness, and engage both state and non-state actors in the broader criminal justice reform agenda.

Recognizing the significance of the issue at hand, LSK structured the Legal Awareness Week to span a period of three months while retaining the traditional Legal Awareness Week (LAW) from 23rd to 27th October 2023. This approach allowed for a more comprehensive and sustained effort to tackle the multifaceted problems associated with prison congestion. Throughout the initiative, LSK collaborated closely with various key state and non-state actors involved in legal aid and prison reforms.

Phase 1 of the Legal Awareness Week encompassed a series of activities aimed at creating awareness, providing legal aid, and conducting interventions to address the issue of prison congestion. These activities included the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders' breakfast meeting, the observance of LAW, logistical mobilization for Phase 2 capacity-building sessions, and legal aid clinics for the public and persons deprived of their liberty in prisons. The first phase of the initiative targeted five strategically chosen counties to maximize its impact.



In Phase 2, LSK is set to further enhance the capacity of advocates to provide legal aid and will focus on the training of advocates, stakeholder mobilization, the development of a Position Paper, and

the identification of cases suitable for diversion and plea bargaining. This phase aims to significantly contribute to the decongestion of correctional facilities and promote alternative approaches to incarceration.

As the Legal Awareness Week 2023 transitions from Phase 1 to Phase 2, it seeks to address the pressing issues associated with prison overcrowding and make justice more accessible to all Kenyan citizens, irrespective of their geographical location or financial

resources. This initiative underscores the pivotal role of the legal profession in upholding the rule of law and ensuring justice for all individuals in the nation.

3 RATIONALE

The Legal Awareness Week 2023 aimed to address the issue of prison overcrowding and promote legal awareness among the general population. Overcrowding in Kenyan prisons can lead to human rights violations, increased violence, and limited access to rehabilitation and reintegration programs. By conducting this initiative, LSK sought to:

1. Promote legal education to the public on their legal rights and responsibilities, emphasizing the consequences of criminal activities and the importance of adhering to the law.
2. Raise awareness about prison conditions, highlighting the challenges faced by inmates in overcrowded prisons, such as limited access to healthcare, education, and rehabilitation programs.
3. Provide free legal aid during the awareness week to help individuals navigate the legal system and potentially reduce the number of people going through the prison system.
4. Promote alternative sentencing options, including plea bargaining, diversion, community service, restorative justice, probation, and diversion programs.
5. Engage in stakeholder collaborations with government agencies, civil society organizations (CSOs), and legal professionals to gather data, technical expertise, resources, and operational support.
6. Encourage pre-trial reforms, such as bail reform and speedy trials, to prevent individuals from spending prolonged periods in prison remand before their cases are resolved.

4 SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES IN PHASE 1

The Phase 1 of the project adhered to the following schedule of activities:

DATE	ACTIVITY	VENUE	
Wed 18 th Oct 2023	Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting	Mercure Hotel Upperhill Nairobi.	
Mon 23 rd Oct 2023	Legal Awareness Week - Launch Day	Milimani Law Courts Nairobi	
Mon 23 rd Oct 2023- 27 th Oct 2023	Court Stationed Legal Aid Clinics	Nairobi Branch	Milimani Law Courts. Kibera Law Courts. Makadara Law Courts
		Mt. Kenya Branch	Isiolo Law Court. Embu Law Court.
		North Rift Branch	Eldoret Chief Magistrate Court and High Court.
		Coast Branch	Treasury Square Mombasa
		West Kenya Brach	Kisumu Law Courts
		South Eastern Branch	(insert)
		South Western Branch	(insert)
		Rift Valley Branch	(Insert)
Mon 23 rd Oct 2023- 27 th Oct 2023	Prison Visits	Nairobi Branch	Industrial Area Remand Prison, Nairobi West Prison, Langata Women's Prison

		Mt. Kenya Branch	Isiolo GK Prison, Embu GK Prison
		North Rift Branch	N/A
		Coast Branch	King'orani Remand Prison
		West Kenya Branch	Kodiaga Prisons
		South Eastern Branch	(insert)
		South Western Branch	(insert)
		Rift Valley Branch	(insert)
Thur 26 th Oct 2023	Community Sensitization	Kibera Kamukunji Grounds	



5 WHAT NEXT?

5.1 PHASE 2: November 1st - December 31st

In light of the successful implementation of Phase 1, LSK is now prepared to move forward with Phase 2. This phase will focus on:

1. Training 200 Advocates drawn from 32 counties on plea bargaining, diversion, pre-trial detention/trial advocacy, and the Small Claims Court.
2. Stakeholder mobilization to support LSK's initiative toward decongesting prisons.
3. Development of a Position Paper by an LSK consultant, focused on the congestion in Kenyan prisons, and its dissemination to multi-pronged advocacy groups to impact correctional facility decongestion.
4. Advocating for the decongestion of prisons through the identification of cases suitable for diversion and plea bargaining, in collaboration with ODPP and the judiciary.

The combined impact of both phases will result in improved access to justice for all, making justice more accessible to a wider spectrum of Kenyan citizens and fostering a stronger commitment to upholding the rule of law.

PROCEEDINGS OF PHASE 1:

1ST OCTOBER 2023 - 31ST OCTOBER 2023

6 THE CORRECTIONAL REFORMS STAKEHOLDERS BREAKFAST MEETING



As the inaugural activity of the Legal Awareness Week (LAW) 2023, the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) convened a pivotal Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting (CRSB-Meeting). This high-level consultative gathering was held on Wednesday, 18th October 2023, from

8:00 am to 11:00 am. The meeting served as a platform for meaningful discourse and collaboration among a diverse array of stakeholders, including key state and non-state partners dedicated to justice and prison reforms.

6.1 Participating Stakeholders-CRSB-Meeting

The Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting drew participation from an impressive array of state and non-state entities. Attendees included representatives from:

- 1) Judiciary
- 2) Office of the Attorney General – Department of Justice (AG)
- 3) National Police Service (NPS)
- 4) Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)
- 5) Kenya Prison Service (KPS)
- 6) Commission on Administrative Justice (CAJ)
- 7) Probation and Aftercare Services
- 8) Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC)
- 9) Kenya National Commission on Human Rights (KNCHR)
- 10) The Power of Mercy Advisory Committee (POMAC)
- 11) National Legal Aid Service (NLAS)

- 12) Federation of Women Lawyers-Kenya (FIDA)
- 13) International Justice Mission(IJM)
- 14) Legal Resources Foundation(LRF)
- 15) RODI Kenya
- 16) Kituo Cha Sheria
- 17) CMR-Africa
- 18) Ombudsman
- 19) UNDP
- 20) UNODC

The complete list of participants is annexed to this report, underscoring the broad spectrum of stakeholders engaged in this significant initiative.

6.2 Objectives of the CRSB-Meeting

The Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting was organized under the auspices of the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ)

The meeting was guided by a concise yet comprehensive objectives which included:

- i. **Mobilization of Participation in the Legal Awareness Week (LAW) 2023:** This segment aimed to mobilize the active involvement of all participants in the forthcoming LAW 2023 activities, ensuring a collective and concerted effort.
- ii. **Expounding on the Theme of the Project:** The meeting provided a platform to delve deeper into the central theme of the LAW 2023, "Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid." Stakeholders had the opportunity to elucidate their perspectives, insights, and contributions in line with this overarching theme.
- iii. **Collating Efforts Towards Legal Aid and Case Review Interventions:** This crucial aspect of the meeting focused on the collaborative efforts and strategies for legal aid provisions and case review interventions. Stakeholders were encouraged to share their knowledge, experiences, and proposed actions in this realm.

The Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting served as a cornerstone for the LAW 2023 initiative, fostering cooperation and coordination among diverse actors, both state and non-state, who are committed to effecting positive change in the Kenyan

criminal justice system. This strategic gathering laid the foundation for a collective effort to address the challenges of prison congestion and to make justice more accessible for all Kenyan citizens. The insights and commitments emanating from this meeting paved the way for the successful execution of the subsequent phases of the LAW 2023 initiative.

6.3 Introduction and Welcome Address: Significance of the Correctional Reforms.

Speaker: Ms. Florence Muturi, Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Kenya



Ms. Florence Muturi, the Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), commenced the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting by delivering the Welcome Address and introducing the event, setting the stage for the significant gathering.

Ms. Muturi initiated the proceedings by acknowledging Advocate Njeri Mutitu, who led the assembly in a prayer, emphasizing the importance of faith and goodwill in our collective efforts.

In the spirit of unity, Ms. Muturi requested that all participants stand for both the national anthem and the East African anthem, symbolizing the shared identity that binds us in our mission.

Expressing deep gratitude, Ms. Muturi thanked all the stakeholders in attendance for their presence and unwavering support of the LSK's mission to address prison congestion and promote accessible justice.

Ms. Muturi then proceeded to provide an overview of the agenda and program for the event, ensuring clarity and a structured approach to the discussions that would follow.

The CEO elaborated on the theme of the LSK Legal Awareness Week 2023, "Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid." She underscored the importance of addressing the challenges posed by prison overcrowding and the multifaceted nature of the issue.

Furthermore, Ms. Muturi explained the two main phases of the LAW 2023 initiative, Phase 1 and Phase 2, and highlighted the reason for the three-month extension of the initiative. She emphasized the urgency of the matter and the need for a comprehensive approach.

In the context-setting phase of her address, Ms. Muturi stressed the significance of convening the initial stakeholder meeting before diving into the



implementation of the scheduled activities. She underscored the importance of shared understanding, collaborative strategies, and the valuable input of all participants in shaping the direction of the initiative.

Ms. Muturi concluded her address by urging all participants to actively engage in the meeting, share their perspectives, insights, and experiences, and work together towards the common goal of unlocking justice and reforming the correctional system.

6.4 Opening Remarks: Importance of Collaboration in Unlocking Justice

Speaker: Mr. Mwaura Kabata, PIL Convener and Council Member LSK

Mr. Mwaura Kabata, in his capacity as a key speaker, delivered the Opening Remarks, shedding light on the paramount importance of collaboration in the pursuit of unlocking justice. His speech emphasized the power of collective efforts and shared dedication to the cause.



During his address, Mr. Kabata underscored the significance of collaboration in addressing the challenges posed by prison overcrowding

and ensuring that justice is accessible to all. He highlighted the need for a united front among all stakeholders involved.

Following his opening remarks, Mr. Kabata welcomed back to the stage the Chief Executive Officer of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), Ms. Florence Muturi, who played a pivotal role in facilitating the event. Ms. Muturi, in turn, initiated a crucial segment of the program.



Ms. Muturi requested the LSK council members who were in attendance to introduce themselves, allowing for a formal recognition of the council's presence at the event.

After the council members' introductions, Ms. Muturi extended a warm welcome to the Vice President of the Law Society of Kenya, who proceeded to deliver her speech. The Vice President's address contributed to the multifaceted discussion on the goals and objectives of the LAW 2023 initiative.

Subsequently, Ms. Muturi welcomed the President of the Law Society of Kenya to the stage, who also delivered an impactful speech. The President's address provided additional insights and perspectives on the mission of the LSK and the importance of the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting.

These introductory remarks and speeches set the stage for the substantive discussions and activities that would follow, emphasizing the collaborative and unified approach to the correctional reforms and the achievement of accessible justice for all.

6.5 Remarks by the Development Partner

Speaker: Mr. Jaffar Mohamed, Advocate representing the UNDP

Mr. Jaffar Mohammed, representing the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), our esteemed project sponsor, joined the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting through a virtual speech. His virtual presence served as a testament to the commitment of the UNDP to the LAW 2023 initiative and the overarching goal of unlocking justice.

In his remarks, Mr. Mohammed expressed the UNDP's dedication to supporting initiatives that promote justice, human rights, and the rule of law. He highlighted the significance of the LAW 2023 initiative in addressing the critical issue of prison congestion and enhancing access to justice for all Kenyan citizens.

Mr. Mohammed's speech underlined the pivotal role of development partners in facilitating positive change and progress. He commended the collaborative efforts of all stakeholders involved in the initiative, emphasizing the importance of unity in achieving the desired outcomes.

Furthermore, Mr. Mohammed reiterated the UNDP's commitment to working hand in hand with the Law Society of Kenya and other stakeholders to effect meaningful change in the correctional system. He recognized the challenges posed by prison overcrowding and affirmed the UNDP's support for innovative approaches aimed at decongesting prisons and delivering legal aid.

His virtual speech served as a source of inspiration and motivation for all participants, reaffirming the shared commitment to unlocking justice and promoting correctional reforms in Kenya.

6.6 Insights from the Stakeholders: Goal Setting

6.6.1 Remarks by Mr. Samson Davies Maundu-Principal Parliamentary Counsel, Office of the Attorney-General & Department of Justice

Mr. Samson Davies Maundu, Principal Parliamentary Counsel representing the Office of the Attorney-General and Department of Justice, delivered a significant address during the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting. In his remarks, he highlighted crucial points related to the holistic approach required to address prison congestion and promote long-term solutions in the Kenyan criminal justice system.

Mr. Maundu serves as the Hon. Attorney-General's representative on the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) Committee on Criminal Justice Reforms, providing valuable insights into ongoing efforts to amend various laws related to the criminal justice system, including the Penal Code, Criminal Procedure Code, Prisons Act, and the Borstal Institutions Act.

Key points from Mr. Maundu's address included:

1. **The Need for Comprehensive Policy Proposals:** Mr. Maundu emphasized that to effectively address prison congestion, stakeholders should consider making comprehensive policy proposals to the Hon. Attorney-General and the Cabinet Secretary for the Interior. These proposals should cover the treatment of suspected offenders from the point of accusation to their discharge by the criminal justice system.
2. **Development of Reporting Tools:** Mr. Maundu recommended that, during the implementation of the program outlined in the Concept Note, the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and its partners should develop reporting tools. These tools would aid in identifying key policy issues that need to be addressed for comprehensive decongestion efforts. He particularly highlighted the importance of considering the role of the Probation and After Care Department and the use of Parole (under section 49 of the Prisons Act). Additionally, he stressed the importance of extensively using diversion and plea bargaining for non-violent minor offenses such as traffic violations, common assault, and misdemeanors.
3. **Comprehensive Review of the Criminal Justice Legal Framework:** Mr. Maundu proposed that the Kenya Law Reform Commission should undertake a comprehensive review of the criminal justice legal framework. The objective of this review would be to recommend a complete overhaul of the existing system. He suggested that a well-designed and well-resourced reform program could be finalized within two to four years and should be prioritized by all criminal justice sector actors, including the LSK.

Mr. Maundu's remarks underscored the need for a comprehensive and coordinated approach to address prison congestion in Kenya's criminal justice system. His insights

provided valuable guidance for future actions and policy initiatives aimed at achieving long-term solutions.

6.6.2 Remarks By Jacqueline Njagi-Prosecutor, Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)



During the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting, Jacqueline Njagi, a prosecutor at the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), delivered remarks on the successes and challenges of a similar project known as the 'All for Justice Project.' Her

insights provided valuable context for the ongoing initiatives and demonstrated the ODPP's commitment to addressing critical issues within the Kenyan criminal justice system.

Jacqueline Njagi highlighted key points from the 'All for Justice Project,' drawing attention to the project's objectives and accomplishments. She referenced the recent launch of the Malalamishi System, a digital platform introduced by the ODPP to allow Kenyans to lodge complaints and request case reviews online. The platform not only streamlines the complaint process but also enables anonymous reporting, thus providing room for whistleblowers to come forward.

One significant aspect of the Malalamishi System is the case review module, which allows members of the public to request a review of their cases by the ODPP. Each request is assigned a reference number to facilitate tracking of progress, making it easier for complainants to follow up on their cases.

The 'All for Justice Project,' initiated in 2018 as part of its Phase I, focused on addressing the delay in the disposal of criminal cases, which had led to prison overcrowding. Notably, Phase I yielded impactful results, including the expedited handling of cases, a reduction in case backlog, and a decrease in the percentage of remandees within the prison population. These successes underscore the importance of collaborative efforts in enhancing the efficiency of the criminal justice system.

Director of Public Prosecutions Noordin Haji emphasized the significance of the project's second phase, which aims to make the prosecution service more responsive to the needs of the mwananchi (citizen). The project intends to provide a second chance for remandees to reform and be reintegrated into society. Furthermore, by implementing plea bargaining and diversion policies, the project is expected to save resources that would have been expended if cases went to full trial, thus benefiting both individuals and the government.

Jacqueline Njagi remarks shed light on the ODPP's commitment to criminal justice reform and its ongoing efforts to reduce prison congestion and case backlog in the country. Her insights provided a valuable perspective on the challenges and successes of similar initiatives, offering guidance and inspiration to stakeholders at the breakfast meeting.

6.6.3 Remarks by Dixon Mwakazi- Senior Assistant Commissioner Director General Legal, Human Rights Research and Statistics Prison HQ Nairobi- Kenya Prison Service

During the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting, Mr. Dixon Mwakazi, the Regional Commander of the Kenya Prison Service, delivered a significant address highlighting the key role played by the Kenya Prison Service in the ongoing initiatives to address prison congestion and improve the country's criminal justice system.

Mr. Mwakazi commenced his remarks by acknowledging the presence of distinguished stakeholders from various sectors and expressing his gratitude for the opportunity to participate in this vital meeting. He emphasized the importance of collaboration among all stakeholders involved in the criminal justice sector, recognizing that collective efforts are essential to effect lasting change.



As the Regional Commander of the Kenya Prison Service, Mr. Mwakazi provided valuable insights into the challenges faced within the correctional system. He stressed

the critical need for innovative and comprehensive solutions to address the issue of prison overcrowding and enhance the conditions of inmates. He also emphasized the importance of providing opportunities for the rehabilitation and reintegration of inmates into society.

Mr. Mwakazi shared the Kenya Prison Service's commitment to working closely with other justice sector actors to implement effective strategies for decongesting prisons. He highlighted the significance of collaboration and coordination between the Kenya Prison Service, the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), the Judiciary, and other relevant agencies to achieve these goals.



Furthermore, Mr. Mwakazi expressed the Kenya Prison Service's dedication to ensuring that correctional facilities adhere to international standards and best practices. He discussed the initiatives and programs aimed at enhancing the well-being of inmates, emphasizing the importance of respect for human rights and the dignity of all individuals within the prison system.

In conclusion, Mr. Mwakazi reiterated the Kenya Prison Service's commitment to actively participating in the initiatives presented at the breakfast meeting and its readiness to work in partnership with all stakeholders to achieve the common goal of prison decongestion and criminal justice reform.

Mr. Mwakazi's remarks provided a vital perspective from the Kenya Prison Service and underscored the importance of collaborative efforts to address the challenges faced by the correctional system.

6.7 CONCLUSION AND WAY FORWARD

Session on Key Takeaways – Facilitator: Miss Mwathi Kitonga Deputy CEO-LSK.



The Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting, held under the guidance of Miss Mwathi Kitonga, led to a comprehensive discussion on the critical issues surrounding prison congestion and the broader reform of the criminal justice system in

Kenya. The session on Key Takeaways highlighted the significant conclusions and the proposed way forward, summarizing the insightful discussions and key recommendations provided by the stakeholders.

6.7.1 Key Recommendations from Stakeholders:

1. **Collaborative Commitment:** One of the pivotal takeaways from the meeting was the resounding importance of collaborative commitment. The meeting brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including the ODPP, NLAS, NPS, Judiciary, Office of the Attorney General, Kenya Prison Service, CAJ, Probation and Aftercare Services, KNCHR, and more, all of whom expressed their unwavering commitment to work together in addressing prison overcrowding.
2. **Legal Awareness Week (L.A.W) 2023:** The meeting reinforced the significance of L.A.W 2023 as a platform for promoting awareness of legal rights and responsibilities among the public. The theme, "Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid," received widespread endorsement, highlighting its relevance and importance.
3. **Alternative Sentencing:** Stakeholders recognized the critical role of alternative sentencing methods in reducing the number of non-violent offenders entering prisons. Methods such as plea bargaining, diversion, community service, restorative justice, and probation were discussed as effective means to address this issue.
4. **Legal Aid and Access to Justice:** The meeting emphasized the need for increased legal aid services, providing free legal consultations and assistance to individuals

to navigate the legal system. By doing so, it is anticipated that this would reduce the number of individuals entering the prison system.

5. **Advocacy for Pre-trial Reforms:** Stakeholders highlighted the vital importance of advocacy efforts aimed at improving pre-trial detention procedures. These efforts include bail reform and speedy trials, intended to prevent prolonged periods of remand in prisons before cases are resolved.

6.7.2 Way Forward:

To build on these critical conclusions and recommendations, the stakeholders collectively charted the way forward:

- i. **Collaborative Efforts:** Continued collaboration and coordination among all stakeholders, including government agencies, civil society organizations, and legal professionals, were underscored as being essential in the ongoing efforts to decongest prisons. A united front of stakeholders working together is seen as key to success.
- ii. **Community Sensitization:** Recognizing the significance of community engagement, the stakeholders concurred with the recommendation of conducting community sensitization forums, a strategy backed by UNDP and other partners. These forums are expected to raise awareness and educate the public on legal matters.
- iii. **Implementation of Strategies:** To ensure the effectiveness of the proposed solutions, it was emphasized that a clear plan and strategy must be developed. This should include defining actionable steps and setting deadlines to adhere to.
- iv. **Monitoring and Evaluation:** Regular monitoring and evaluation mechanisms will be established to track progress, identify challenges, and adapt strategies as needed. Continuous assessment is integral to achieving the intended goals.
- v. **Advocacy and Awareness:** The meeting concluded with a commitment to a robust advocacy and awareness campaign. This campaign extends beyond L.A.W



2023 and aims to engage the broader community and maintain the momentum generated by the stakeholders' shared dedication.

In summary, the Correctional Reforms Stakeholders Breakfast Meeting served as a significant platform for a diverse array of stakeholders to come together, share their insights, and collaboratively address the complex issues of prison congestion and criminal justice reform. The conclusions drawn and the proposed way forward reflect the commitment of all stakeholders towards achieving these critical goals.

7 THE LAUNCH OF THE LEGAL AWARENESS WEEK

The grand inauguration of the traditional LSK Legal Aid Week 2023 was a momentous event held at the iconic Milimani Law Courts on October 23, 2023. The event witnessed participation from a distinguished array of speakers, including the esteemed members of the LSK Council led by President Mr.



Eric Theuri, Vice President Faith Odhiambo, and Council Members Mr. Tom Kopere, Mr. Mwaura Kabata, and Mr. Cohen Amanya. Additionally, the LSK CEO, Ms. Florence W. Muturi, graced the occasion with her presence.



The event also garnered significant support from various project partners, comprising UNDP, UNODC, Amkeni Wakenya, KRA, Amnesty International, IMLU, FIDA, CRR, ODPP, LSK Nairobi Branch, and Kenya Prisons and others. These esteemed partners united in a

resounding call to the public, urging them to seize the opportunity presented by Legal Aid Week to access free legal assistance from readily available advocates.

The Official Launch of Legal Awareness Week on October 23, 2023, at Milimani Law Courts, was a remarkable occasion attended by Mr. Renson Ingonga, the Director of Public Prosecutions. In his address, Mr. Ingonga emphasized that the Office of the Director of Public



Prosecutions (ODPP) remains steadfast in its commitment to the national agenda by ensuring that the prosecutorial mandate remains adaptive and responsive to ever-evolving societal dynamics. He also highlighted the extensive participation of the ODPP



in endeavors aimed at decongesting prisons, a mission conducted under the "All for Justice Case Review" banner. Mr. Ingonga commended the ODPP for its pioneering role in this effort, noting that they have once again set the pace for others to follow.

The launch was marked by the presence of both advocates and various legal aid clients, some of whom were affiliated with the various Justice Centers. After the formal launch of the event, advocates promptly attended to the clients, offering them valuable legal assistance. As part of the symbolic launch, two clients were assigned, one to the Director of Public Prosecutions and the other to the President of the Law Society of Kenya. Following the successful provision of legal aid to these clients, both dignitaries committed to overseeing the follow-up on their respective cases.

Amid these successful proceedings, the much-anticipated L.A.W 2023 was officially declared open, signifying the commencement of a week dedicated to the provision of essential legal services to the public.

The launch event included the following highlights:

- i. **Legal Aid Client Assistance:** Advocates were readily available to provide legal aid to clients attending the event.
- ii. **Partnership Showcase:** Civil society organizations and state and non-state institutions partnering with LSK were allocated booths within the court premises. These booths served as stations for offering legal aid to the public.
- iii. **Symbolic Legal Aid Provision:** To mark the official opening of L.A.W 2023, two clients were allocated to the Director of the Public Prosecutions and the President of the Law Society of Kenya. Both committed to ensuring the follow-up on their respective cases.

In this resounding launch, the legal community, partners, and clients converged with the shared commitment to uphold justice, provide legal aid, and address the legal needs of the public during the LSK Legal Aid Week 2023. The following are the proceedings of the event:

7.1 The Proceedings of the Launch Day.

7.1.1 Welcoming Remarks- Ms. Florence Muturi, Secretary/Chief Executive Officer LSK

In her welcoming remarks, Ms. Florence Muturi, Secretary/Chief Executive Officer of LSK, set a vibrant tone for the meeting by establishing the protocol for the day, extending a warm welcome to all attendees, leading the rendition of the national anthem and opening prayer, and providing a clear overview of the day's agenda and its context.



7.1.2 Welcoming Remarks -Ms. Helene Namisi Chairperson-LSK Nairobi Branch



Ms. Helene Namisi, Chairperson of LSK Nairobi Branch, commenced her remarks by acknowledging the established protocol and greeting the esteemed colleagues and members of the public. She welcomed everyone to the Legal Awareness Week, organized by the Law Society of Kenya,

highlighting its significance as a moment of pride and purpose for legal practitioners, bound by their oath to uphold the Rule of Law and serve society. With a focus on this year's theme, Ms. Namisi stressed the importance of recommitting to the principles of justice and joining forces to address the critical issues of prison overcrowding and equitable access to legal assistance. She emphasized that legal professionals are not merely service providers but guardians of a justice system that is integral to the nation's well-being and unity. Pro bono work, she noted, embodies selflessness and dedication to the cause of justice, making the justice system more equitable and accessible. Ms. Namisi called on all legal practitioners to use the Legal Awareness Week as an opportunity to renew their commitment to offering pro bono services, helping decongest prisons, and deliver essential legal aid to those in need. She concluded by expressing her hope that this week would be a catalyst for change and a reminder of their shared duty to protect the rights of the vulnerable and uphold the rule of law, ultimately working together to unlock justice for all.

7.2 Remarks by Representatives from Bars to Justice Project Partners

During the session on Remarks by Representatives from Bars to Justice Project Partners, facilitated by Council Member Mwaura Kabata, each representative from the project's sponsors was duly recognized and given an opportunity to address the gathering. Following their remarks, Mwaura Kabata extended recognition to all the Bars to Justice Stakeholders, acknowledging their valuable contributions and participation in this important initiative. The session served as a platform to hear from the project partners and stakeholders, fostering collaboration and a sense of shared purpose in the Bars to Justice Project.

7.2.1 United Nations Development Programme: Mr. Mohamed Jaafar -Programs Manager



Mr. Jaafar Mohamed, representing the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), emphasized the significant role of utilizing the Small Claims Court as a key aspect of the Legal Awareness Week. He stressed the importance of the Small Claims Court as a mechanism to provide swift and accessible justice to the public, particularly for resolving minor civil disputes and claims.

In addition to highlighting the role of the Small Claims Court, Mr. Jaafar Mohamed expressed strong support for the decongestion of prisons, which is a pressing issue in Kenya's justice system. He emphasized that addressing prison overcrowding is not only a legal imperative but also a moral obligation.

Mr. Mohammed also recognized the collaborative commitment of the European Union, UNODC, Amkeni Wakenya, and UNDP in supporting the LSK's initiative. He reiterated their dedication to working together with the LSK and other stakeholders, both in the present and the future, to promote access to justice and alleviate the challenges related to prison congestion.

The UNDP's commitment to the Legal Awareness Week and the broader efforts to enhance access to justice in Kenya underscores the importance of collective action and partnerships in achieving these goals.

7.2.2 Independent Medico Legal Unit :Isabella Obara TL-Legal Unit

Isabella Obara, representing the Independent Medico Legal Unit (IMLU), delivered a compelling speech during the launch of the 2023 Legal Awareness Week. Her speech emphasized the importance of collaboration and collective efforts to address legal and human rights issues in Kenya.



She began her speech by extending a warm welcome to the distinguished guests, emphasizing the significance of the event in the legal landscape.

Isabella highlighted IMLU's longstanding commitment to justice, governance, health, and human rights. With over two decades of experience, IMLU has been at the forefront of advocating against torture, providing crucial assistance to victims, and campaigning for accountability in cases related to torture.

The theme of this year's Legal Awareness Week, "Unlocking Justice: A Collective Effort to Decongest Prisons and Deliver Legal Aid," struck a chord with the challenges faced by Kenya's correctional institutions. Isabella noted the critical issue of prison congestion and the pressing need for access to justice.

The Legal Awareness Week, spanning from 23rd to 27th October 2023 and continuing over the next three months, is designed to confront these challenges head-on. Collaborative partners aim not only to raise awareness about the plight of inmates in overcrowded prisons but also to provide tangible medico-legal aid and explore alternative sentencing options. Their collective mission is to promote legal literacy and facilitate access to justice throughout the country. They also recognize the importance of sensitizing both advocates and the public on the workings of the Small Claims Court, contributing to a more efficient and responsive legal system.

Isabella Obara concluded her speech by emphasizing that justice is not an abstract concept but a living reality that must touch the lives of every citizen. She stressed the importance of collective commitment to unlocking justice, ensuring that it becomes a fundamental right accessible to all. Isabella called for unity and cooperation in this journey of legal empowerment, equality, and justice for all.

Her speech underlined the significance of the Legal Awareness Week in promoting justice, legal aid, and human rights, and highlighted the urgent need for collaboration and collective action to address the challenges in Kenya's legal system and correctional institutions.

7.2.3 Center For Reproductive Rights -Edigah Mugamangi, Senior Manger Pro Bono Africa



Edigah Mugamangi, Senior Manager for Pro Bono in Africa at the Center for Reproductive Rights, delivered an impactful speech during the opening of the Law Society of Kenya's Annual Legal Awareness Week. His speech highlighted the importance of collaboration and the shared commitment to advancing reproductive health rights in Kenya.

Edigah began his speech by expressing immense gratitude and a profound sense of responsibility. He introduced himself and provided insight into the Center for

Reproductive Rights, a global human rights organization dedicated to using the power of the law to advance reproductive health rights.

He emphasized that reproductive rights are fundamental human rights, particularly relevant in Kenya, where many women face daily challenges in accessing comprehensive reproductive healthcare. These challenges include high maternal mortality rates, inadequate family planning services, and societal stigmas surrounding reproductive health.

However, Edigah noted that hope exists in the power of collaboration. The partnership between the Center for Reproductive Rights and the Law Society of Kenya exemplifies the potential for positive change. This collaboration is rooted in the shared belief that individuals have the right to make decisions about their own bodies and reproductive health, free from discrimination, coercion, or violence.

Edigah shared that their initiatives aimed at advancing reproductive rights and expanding pro bono legal services have demonstrated the transformative impact of this partnership. Legal expertise, combined with their mission, has the potential to change lives and break down legal barriers restricting access to reproductive healthcare.

He underscored the critical role of the legal community in advocating for change and eliminating barriers to reproductive healthcare. The partnership between the Center for Reproductive Rights and the Law Society of Kenya is a testament to the power of collaboration in this regard.

Edigah expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Law Society of Kenya for their unwavering support, dedication, and partnership in advancing reproductive rights. He acknowledged their instrumental role in the progress achieved and expressed a commitment to building upon this foundation of collaboration. Together, they are determined to continue their collective efforts to safeguard and advance reproductive rights and deepen the pro bono culture in Kenya.

Edigah's speech highlighted the critical work being done to address reproductive health rights and emphasized the essential role of collaboration and partnership in driving positive change in Kenya.

7.2.4 Federation of Women Lawyers) – Kenya-Executive Director Ms. Anne Ireri

Anne Ireri, the Executive Director of the Federation of Women Lawyers - Kenya (FIDA-Kenya), shared key insights during her address at the event. She highlighted several important initiatives and collaborations that FIDA-Kenya is involved in, underscoring their commitment to promoting legal awareness and access to justice.

Anne mentioned FIDA-Kenya's participation in the "16 Days of Activism," a global campaign to raise awareness about gender-based violence. She also discussed their planned community sensitization efforts in collaboration with the Law Society of Kenya

(LSK) to provide legal aid to the residents of Kibera, an informal settlement in Nairobi. This outreach program is a vital step toward ensuring that legal services are accessible to marginalized communities.

Another significant aspect of Anne's speech was FIDA-Kenya's campaign to combat domestic violence. Domestic violence remains a pressing issue, and FIDA-Kenya's efforts in this regard reflect their dedication to addressing and eradicating this problem.

Furthermore, Anne acknowledged the commendable work done by the Law Society of Kenya during the Annual Legal Awareness Week. She expressed FIDA-Kenya's support for LSK's initiatives in raising legal awareness and facilitating access to justice. This collaboration between the two organizations is instrumental in advancing the cause of justice and legal rights.

Anne's address served to emphasize the importance of collective efforts in promoting legal awareness, access to justice, and the protection of vulnerable individuals. FIDA-Kenya's involvement in various campaigns and initiatives underscores their commitment to addressing pressing issues and supporting LSK's vital work during the Annual Legal Awareness Week.

7.3 Speeches by Special Guests

7.3.1 Vice President -Law Society of Kenya Ms. Faith Odhiambo



Faith Odhiambo, the Vice President of LSK, welcomed the esteemed guests, including Mr. Renson Mulele, Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP), and various representatives from partner organizations, underscoring the importance of the event. She painted a vivid picture of prison

overcrowding and emphasized the need for a collective response.

Overcrowded Prisons: Faith pointed out the grave situation of overcrowded prisons. Despite constitutional provisions and laws that support non-custodial sentences and bail rights, the prisons are bursting at the seams.

Collective Responsibility: She called for collaboration between the National Council on the Administration of Justice, the Judiciary, ODPP, KPAS, WPA, NGOs, and all justice sector participants. Faith stressed the necessity of cooperation to alleviate this challenge, noting that any lapse in the system poses risks.

Advocates' Oath and Pro Bono Service: Faith reminded fellow advocates of their oath to uphold justice and encouraged them to embrace pro bono work, taking on at least one more case. She acknowledged the crucial role of lawyers in providing access to justice for the poor and vulnerable.

The Judiciary Fund: She emphasized the significance of the Judiciary fund, highlighting that justice delayed due to delayed payments for pro bono cases ultimately denies justice. Prompt payments and respect for advocates' dedication are vital.

Improving the Judicial System: While acknowledging the Judiciary's progress in enhancing its case management system, Faith challenged them to aspire to even greater efficiency, clarity, and transparency, considering these as fundamental elements for a robust judicial system.

Probation and Community Service: Faith proposed the use of probation and community service as essential tools to decongest prisons. She questioned the wisdom of incarcerating individuals for minor offenses when they could positively contribute to society and undergo rehabilitation.

A Vision of Restorative Justice: Concluding with a visionary note, Faith expressed the hope for reformed prisons that focus on restorative justice, envisioning them as community centers of restoration. She acknowledged that though it may seem distant, such a vision is worth pursuing.

Faith called upon everyone to collectively remove one brick at a time from the walls built with injustice and indifference in our current prisons. She urged her fellow advocates to unite and be inspired by their solemn oath. She concluded by inviting all

attendees to make a significant difference during the Legal Awareness Week, united by their shared commitment to justice.

7.3.2 President of the Law Society of Kenya -Mr. Erick Theuri

In his address, Mr. Erick Theuri, the President of the Law Society of Kenya, expressed his sincere appreciation to the advocates who generously volunteered to provide free legal aid during the event. He extended his gratitude to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP) for their invaluable support and to the Judiciary and the National Council on the Administration of Justice (NCAJ) for their substantial roles in addressing justice system challenges.



Furthermore, President Theuri took a moment to recognize and express his heartfelt appreciation to the event's sponsors for their vital contributions to the success of the Legal Awareness Week. Finally, he passionately encouraged his fellow advocates to actively participate in the week's activities by offering free legal services to the community. His message emphasized the importance of their dedication and involvement in making the event a success.

In summary, President Theuri's speech highlighted gratitude, acknowledged key supporters, appreciated sponsors, and encouraged advocates to actively engage in the Legal Awareness Week to ensure its success and benefit the community.

7.3.3 Chief Guest- Mr. Renson Mulele Director of Public Prosecutions (DPP)



Mr. Renson M. Ingonga, Director of Public Prosecutions, delivered a speech at the launch of the LSK Service Week 2023, held at Milimani Law Courts in Nairobi on October 23, 2023. He commended the event's theme, "Unlocking Justice: A collaborative effort to decongest prisons and deliver legal aid," emphasizing its timeliness in advancing access to justice for all. Despite the Legal Aid Act of 2016, legal representation remains elusive for many rural Kenyans, highlighting the need to audit the Criminal Justice System's responsiveness.

Mr. Ingonga acknowledged the National Legal Aid Scheme's efforts to champion access to justice, despite recent audits revealing systemic biases against the poor in the criminal justice system. He stressed the significance of the LSK Service Week in addressing these challenges, asserting that a 21st Century prosecutor's role extends beyond case processing to analyzing societal issues and implementing crime prevention solutions.

The Director of Public Prosecutions highlighted the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP)'s active participation in initiatives to decongest prisons, citing the "All for Justice Case Review" as an instrumental effort that improved transparency, accountability, and efficiency. He discussed the ODPP's commitment to enhancing access to justice through continuous reviews of ongoing criminal cases, aligning with the ODPP's strategic agenda.

Mr. Ingonga proposed that the LSK Service Week's prison decongestion activity becomes an annual program within the criminal justice sector, an idea welcomed by the audience. He officially declared the LSK Service Week "Unlocking Justice" open, expressing gratitude for collective efforts and looking forward to enhancing access to justice.

7.3.4 Closing Remarks – Tom Kopere , LSK Council Member

Mr. Tom Kopere, a Council Member of the Law Society of Kenya, delivered the closing remarks for the event. Following his closing remarks, the station remained active throughout the day, with advocates providing essential legal aid services to clients in need.

8 THE TRADITIONAL LEGAL AWARENESS WEEK

As indicated earlier in our introduction to the report, LSK conducted a series of activities aimed at promoting access to justice and addressing legal system challenges. The events spanned various locations and included diverse initiatives.

One of the central components of the week was the Court-Stationed Legal Aid Clinics. From October 23 to October 27, 2023, these clinics were operational at various venues in different LSK branches. They provided free legal aid services to the community, ensuring that individuals had access to legal assistance.

Simultaneously, prison visits were conducted in several branches during the same period. The visits targeted different correctional facilities, including remand prisons and women's prisons, with the aim of addressing the conditions of those held in custody.

Additionally, community sensitization efforts were carried out at Kibera Kamukunji Grounds on October 26, 2023. These initiatives aimed to engage and inform the community on legal matters and the importance of access to justice.



(A photo of the Kibera Community Sensitization Forum)

9 COURT -STATIONED LEGAL AID CLINICS

9.1 Nairobi Branch: Milimani Law Courts, Kibera Law Courts, Makadara Law Courts

The Nairobi Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) collaborated seamlessly with the National Office to implement a series of legal aid clinics during the Legal Awareness Week 2023. The clinics were strategically stationed at Milimani Law Courts, Kibera Law Courts, and Makadara Law Courts, with Milimani Law Courts hosting the flagship event that garnered the highest turnout.

Milimani Law Courts Legal Aid Clinic:

Narration:

Milimani Law Courts emerged as the epicenter of the Nairobi Branch's engagement during the Legal Awareness Week. The collaborative efforts of the branch and the National Office created a well-coordinated and impactful event that drew the attention of a substantial number of advocates and clients.

The legal aid clinic at Milimani Law Courts witnessed an exceptional turnout of both advocates and clients. The premises buzzed with activity as legal professionals set up stations to address a diverse array of legal issues. The atmosphere was characterized by a sense of purpose, commitment, and a shared dedication to advancing access to justice.

Kibera Law Courts and Makadara Law Courts Legal Aid Clinics:

While Milimani Law Courts took the lead, Kibera Law Courts and Makadara Law Courts were not far behind in their impact on the local communities. The collaborative approach between the Nairobi Branch and the National Office ensured that legal aid services were effectively disseminated across multiple locations.

Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the legal aid clinics in Nairobi was made possible through the collaboration and support of the National Legal Aid Scheme (NLAS), the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions (ODPP), and other legal aid organizations. The Nairobi

Branch acknowledges their crucial roles in enhancing the impact of the Legal Awareness Week.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. Highest turnout recorded at Milimani Law Courts, showcasing the effectiveness of the collaboration.
2. Extensive coverage of legal issues across all three locations.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. The National Office should Strengthen collaboration with the Nairobi Branch to ensure a unified and impactful approach.
2. Explore opportunities for extending the reach of legal aid clinics to more locations within Nairobi.

Conclusion:

The Legal Aid Clinics organized by the Nairobi Branch, in collaboration with the National Office, marked a significant contribution to the success of the Legal Awareness Week 2023. The events not only demonstrated the commitment of the legal community to providing accessible services but also underscored the importance of collaborative efforts in advancing justice for all.

9.2 Mt. Kenya Branch: Isiolo Law Court, Embu Law Court

The Mt. Kenya Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) organized Court Stationed Legal Aid Clinics in Isiolo and Embu Law Courts as part of the Legal Awareness Week, focusing on providing legal aid to individuals in these regions.

Legal Aid Clinics in Isiolo and Embu Law Courts:

Narration:

The Mt. Kenya Branch extended its Legal Awareness Week activities to the Isiolo and Embu Law Courts, setting up legal aid clinics within the court premises. Advocates from

the branch, legal experts, and volunteers gathered to offer pro bono legal services to individuals seeking assistance.

Collaboration and Acknowledgments:

The success of the legal aid clinics in Isiolo and Embu Law Courts was possible through the dedicated efforts of advocates, legal experts, and volunteers from the Mt. Kenya Branch. The branch extends its gratitude to all participants for their commitment.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. Presence in Isiolo and Embu Law Courts ensured a wider reach of legal aid services.
2. Engagement with clients on various legal issues, promoting access to justice.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Strengthen partnerships with local communities to enhance awareness and participation.
2. Consider expanding legal aid clinics to additional courts within the Mt. Kenya region.

Conclusion:

The Mt. Kenya Branch's initiative to establish Court Stationed Legal Aid Clinics in Isiolo and Embu Law Courts during the Legal Awareness Week underscores its commitment to providing essential legal services and fostering access to justice in diverse regions.

9.3 North Rift Branch: Eldoret Chief Magistrate Court and High Court

This report focuses on the Court Stationed Legal Aid activity that transpired in Eldoret, coordinated by the LSK North Rift Branch. The event aimed to raise awareness about legal issues and provide free legal education and services to the community.

Activity Overview:

1. **Number of Advocates:** The event saw the active participation of 15 dedicated advocates each day.
2. **Number of Clients Served:** An average of 30 clients per day sought legal assistance during the event.

Narration:

At the Eldoret High Court and the Magistrate's Court, tents were set up, furnished with desks where clients could seek legal advice in a private and conducive environment. In addition to legal practitioners, relevant stakeholders such as the Independent Police Oversight Authority (IPOA), National Legal Aid Services (NLAS), Office of the Attorney General, and The Commission on the Administration of Justice (Ombudsman Office) were present. Their presence ensured a holistic approach to addressing the legal needs of the clients.

This setup provided a platform for advocates to offer free legal advice, guidance, and assistance to community members who were in need of legal services. It also allowed law students to engage with clients directly, facilitating a mentorship process that benefits both the clients and the upcoming legal professionals.

Recommendations:

1. **Efficient Processes:** To streamline activities at correctional facilities, we recommend improved coordination between prison authorities and event organizers to ensure efficient use of time during prison visits.
2. **Paralegal Training:** In order to enhance legal assistance to inmates, we propose the development of paralegal training programs. These paralegals can work alongside legal professionals, contributing to better addressing the legal challenges faced by inmates.
3. **Enhanced Public Awareness:** We suggest more efforts be directed towards raising public awareness about the Legal Awareness Week event. Utilizing a musical band for a week-long public awareness campaign can be considered.

Conclusion:

The Court Stationed Legal Aid activity during the Legal Awareness Week in Eldoret was a success in promoting legal education and community engagement. We commend the participants, including the advocates, law students, and invited legal experts for their dedication. We look forward to implementing the recommendations to enhance the impact of future Legal Awareness Week events.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and the administration of the Law Society of Kenya, particularly LSK North Rift Chairman Henry Kenei, for their invaluable support in making this event a success. A special mention goes to Ms. Lizzy Sinna, whose administrative acumen ensured the event's smooth execution. We are eager to see this annual event grow and continue making a positive impact on legal awareness and assistance in the community.

9.4 Coast Branch: Treasury Square, Mombasa

The Mombasa Law Society organized the Legal Awareness Week from Monday, October 23, to Friday, October 27, 2023, at the Treasury Square opposite the Mombasa County Council offices.

At the heart of the Week, legal aid clinics were stationed at the Treasury Square opposite the County Assembly offices along Nkrumah Road. These clinics provided a platform for advocates involved in Legal Aid and Human Rights work, as well as other institutions that provide



legal aid, to engage with members of the public. The aim was to promote a better understanding of the role they play in the advancement of legal literacy, advocacy, and access to justice.

Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the legal aid clinics would not have been possible without the support and collaboration of various organizations and stakeholders, including:

1. Commission on Administrative Justice,
2. Office of Ombudsman
3. Independent Policing Oversight Authority
4. Kituo Cha Sheria
5. FIDA Kenya
6. CLEAR
7. National Legal Aid Service (NLAS)
8. County Council Of Mombasa
9. Kenya National Commission On Human Rights
10. University Of Nairobi, Mombasa Campus
11. Haki Yetu
12. Haki Africa
13. Sisters Of Justice



These organizations played a vital role in providing resources and expertise to ensure the success of the legal aid clinics.

Number of Advocates and Clients:

Throughout the five days of the Legal Awareness Week, the number of advocates and clients who attended were as follows:

- Monday, October 23, 2023: 51 Advocates and 19 Clients
- Tuesday, October 24, 2023: 60 Advocates and 46 Clients
- Wednesday, October 25, 2023: 77 Advocates and 40 Clients
- Thursday, October 26, 2023: 81 Advocates and 51 Clients
- Friday, October 27, 2023: 54 Advocates and 27 Clients

Issues Observed During the Week:

Various legal matters were observed during the week, including child cruelty, criminal cases, divorce, land matters, traffic offenses, and more. The presence of legal experts and their willingness to offer free legal advice significantly benefited the clients and addressed their pressing legal concerns.



Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful in the Legal Aid Week 2023:

1. Increased participation of advocates who came forward to assist the members of the public.
2. Effective teamwork among stakeholders.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Community mobilization: Involve counties and partners in mobilizing the public.
2. Early planning with stakeholder involvement from the start.
3. Utilize media and radio shows for event mobilization.
4. Disseminate information frequently before the event.
5. Engage more partners to enhance the event's effectiveness.

Conclusion:



The Legal Awareness Week held at the Treasury Square successfully provided free legal advice and assistance to members of the public, addressing their legal concerns. The event underscored the commitment of legal professionals and stakeholders to ensure that access to justice remains a fundamental right for all. The success of the legal aid clinics demonstrates the importance of legal aid in promoting access to justice.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and the administration of the Mombasa Law Society for their support in making this event a success.

9.5 West Kenya Branch: Kisumu Law Courts

The West Kenya Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) actively participated in the Legal Awareness Week, focusing its efforts on providing legal aid and awareness at Kisumu Law Courts.

Court Stationed Legal Aid at Kisumu Law Courts:

Narration:

The legal aid clinic stationed at Kisumu Law Courts witnessed enthusiastic participation from advocates and members of the public seeking legal assistance. West Kenya Branch, in collaboration with the National Legal Aid Scheme (NLAS) and other stakeholders, set up information booths and consultation areas within the court premises. Advocates engaged with individuals on various legal matters, offering guidance and advice.

Turnout Statistics (Kisumu Law Courts):

- Advocates: [Insert Number]
- Members of the Public Served: [Insert Number]

Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the Legal Awareness Week activity in West Kenya Branch, particularly at Kisumu Law Courts, was made possible through the support and collaboration of NLAS,

local legal aid organizations, and court authorities. The branch extends gratitude to all partners for their valuable contributions.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. Significant advocate turnout, ensuring comprehensive coverage of legal issues.
2. Positive engagement with the public, addressing a diverse range of legal concerns.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Explore the possibility of extending legal awareness activities to additional court stations within the West Kenya region.
2. Enhance promotional efforts to increase public awareness of the legal aid services provided during the event.

Conclusion:

The West Kenya Branch's participation in the Legal Awareness Week at Kisumu Law Courts exemplifies its commitment to advancing access to justice in the region. The event not only facilitated legal consultations but also contributed to a heightened awareness of legal rights among members of the public.

9.6 South Eastern Branch: (Report Pending from the branch)

9.7 South Western Branch: (Report Pending from the branch)

9.8 Rift Valley Branch: (Report Pending from the branch)

10 PRISON VISITS

10.1 Nairobi Branch: Industrial Area Remand Prison, Nairobi West Prison, Langata Women's Prison



The Nairobi Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK), in close collaboration with the National Office, executed a comprehensive Legal Awareness Week across various correctional facilities. The branch worked tirelessly to bring legal aid and awareness to Industrial Area Remand Prison, Nairobi West Prison, and Langata

Women's Prison.

Industrial Area Remand Prison Legal Aid Clinic:

The legal aid clinic at Industrial Area Remand Prison witnessed a substantial turnout of advocates and inmates. Nairobi Branch, with support from the National Legal Aid Scheme (NLAS) and other stakeholders, created a conducive environment within the prison premises for legal consultations. Advocates engaged with inmates, addressing diverse legal issues and providing crucial advice.



Turnout Statistics (Industrial Area Remand Prison):

- Advocates: [Insert Number]
- Inmates Served: [Insert Number]

Nairobi West Prison Legal Aid Clinic:



The legal aid clinic at Nairobi West Prison extended the branch's commitment to ensuring access to justice for incarcerated individuals. Advocates actively participated in discussions, offering legal insights and assistance. The event aimed

to empower inmates with knowledge about their legal rights, particularly focusing on issues relevant to Nairobi West Prison.

Langata Women's Prison Legal Aid Clinic:

Langata Women's Prison hosted another impactful legal aid clinic. Advocates from the Nairobi Branch, accompanied by stakeholders, engaged with female inmates on a range of legal matters. The event not only provided legal assistance but also contributed to raising awareness about the unique legal challenges faced by women within the prison system.



Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the Legal Awareness Week activities in Nairobi Branch owes much to the collaborative efforts of KNCHR, NLAS, relevant government authorities, and local legal aid organizations. The branch extends sincere appreciation to all partners and stakeholders for their valuable contributions.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. High advocate turnout at all correctional facilities.
2. Comprehensive coverage of legal issues affecting diverse inmate populations.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Strengthen partnerships with women-focused organizations for increased impact at women's correctional facilities.
2. Consider organizing follow-up legal awareness sessions to ensure continued support for inmates.

Conclusion:



The Nairobi Branch's Legal Awareness Week activities at Industrial Area Remand Prison, Nairobi West Prison, and Langata Women's Prison underscore the commitment to making justice accessible to all, regardless of their incarceration. The events facilitated meaningful interactions and discussions, contributing

to a broader understanding of legal rights among the inmate populations.

10.2 Mt. Kenya Branch: Isiolo GK Prison, Embu GK Prison

The Mt. Kenya Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) played a pivotal role in the Legal Awareness Week 2023 by organizing legal activities at Isiolo GK Prison and Embu GK Prison. The branch aimed to bring legal aid directly to inmates, addressing their legal concerns and contributing to the broader objective of decongesting prisons.



The legal aid clinic at Isiolo GK Prison was a testament to the commitment of the Mt. Kenya Branch to extend legal services to remote areas. Advocates from the branch, in collaboration with the National Legal Aid Scheme (NLAS) and other stakeholders, set

up a clinic within the prison premises. The event saw a meaningful interaction between legal professionals and inmates, providing them with essential legal advice and support.

Embu GK Prison Legal Aid Clinic:



The legal aid clinic at Embu GK Prison further strengthened the branch's dedication to promoting access to justice. Advocates engaged with inmates, addressing a spectrum of legal issues, from pending court cases to matters related to their incarceration. The event aimed not only to provide

legal aid but also to empower inmates with knowledge about their legal rights.

Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the Legal Awareness Week activities in the Mt. Kenya Branch was made possible through the collaboration with NLAS, the Department of Correctional Services, and local legal aid organizations. The branch expresses gratitude to all stakeholders who contributed to the success of the legal aid clinics.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. Meaningful engagement with inmates at both Isiolo GK Prison and Embu GK Prison.
2. Comprehensive coverage of legal issues affecting the incarcerated population.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Explore possibilities for extending legal awareness initiatives to other correctional facilities in the region.
2. Strengthen partnerships with local organizations to enhance the impact of legal aid clinics.

Conclusion:

The Mt. Kenya Branch's participation in the Legal Awareness Week through legal aid clinics at Isiolo GK Prison and Embu GK Prison exemplifies its commitment to ensuring that justice reaches even the most remote corners of the region. The events contributed not only to addressing individual legal concerns but also to fostering a deeper understanding of legal rights among the inmate population.

10.3 North Rift Branch: Not Applicable

The Legal Awareness Week event organized by the Law Society of Kenya took place from October 23 to October 27, 2023, involving various activities in Eldoret under the auspices of the LSK North Rift Branch. This report focuses on the Prison Visit activity that occurred on the final day of the event.

Activity Overview: Friday, October 27, 2023

1. Prison Facilities Visited: Eldoret Prisons

Narration:

On the last day of the Legal Awareness Week, a meaningful visit to Eldoret Prisons was organized. The day began with a breakfast gathering at Eka Hotel, where relevant stakeholders convened to discuss the planned prison visit and align expectations for the day's events.

The prison visit was highly successful in providing valuable free legal aid to the inmates. This initiative was crucial in ensuring that the incarcerated individuals had access to legal information and assistance. The event also offered an opportunity to highlight the legal challenges and issues faced by inmates.

During the visit, legal practitioners, students, and various stakeholders provided free legal advice and assistance to inmates. This interaction was a vital step in addressing the legal needs of individuals who could not afford legal services. It also facilitated direct mentorship for students who participated in the event, allowing them to observe the dynamics of real client-advocate interactions.

Number of Advocates and Clients:

- Approximately 20 advocates volunteered for the prison visit.
- The team was able to provide legal aid to approximately 150 inmates.

Recommendations:

1. **Efficient Prison Processes:** To maximize the effectiveness of future prison visits, efforts should be made to streamline the processes within correctional facilities. This can include better coordination between prison authorities and event organizers to minimize waiting times and ensure that inmates receive more legal assistance during the visit.
2. **Training Paralegals:** The establishment of programs to train more paralegals who can work alongside legal professionals in correctional facilities is recommended. This can help address the legal needs of inmates more effectively.
3. **Continuous Public Awareness:** Efforts should be put into creating awareness about prison visits to ensure that inmates are aware of the opportunities to receive legal aid and support.

Conclusion:

The prison visit on the final day of the Legal Awareness Week was a significant success. It played a crucial role in providing free legal aid to incarcerated individuals, addressing their legal needs, and highlighting their challenges. We commend the organizing team, participating students, and invited legal experts for their dedication and hard work. We look forward to implementing the recommendations mentioned above to enhance the impact of future prison visit activities.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and the Eldoret Prisons administration for their support in making this prison visit a success. The cooperation and collaboration of all stakeholders significantly contributed to the positive outcome of this event.

10.4 Coast Branch: King'orani Remand Prison Visit

As part of the Mombasa Law Society's Legal Awareness Week, a one-day prison visit was organized at King'orani Remand Prison on Friday, October 27, 2023, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

The one-day prison visit to King'orani Remand Prison was organized with meticulous planning, bringing together legal professionals, stakeholders, and members of the Mombasa Law Society. The event successfully provided inmates with critical legal advice and support, addressing their pressing legal concerns. The inmates had an opportunity to interact with lawyers and receive much-needed legal information.

Partners and Acknowledgments:

The success of the prison visit was made possible through the collaboration and support of various organizations and stakeholders, including:

1. Commission On Administrative Justice, Office Of Ombudsman
2. Independent Policing Oversight Authority
3. Kituo Cha Sheria
4. FIDA Kenya
5. CLEAR
6. National Legal Aid Service (NLAS)
7. County Council Of Mombasa
8. Kenya National Commission On Human Rights
9. University Of Nairobi, Mombasa Campus
10. Haki Yetu
11. Haki Africa
12. Sisters Of Justice

These organizations contributed significantly to the event's success by providing resources, expertise, and legal professionals.

Impact on Inmates:

The one-day prison visit made a substantial impact on the inmate population. Inmates were able to receive critical legal advice and support, addressing their pressing legal concerns. Many of them reported feeling better informed about their rights and better prepared to engage with the legal system during and after their incarceration.

This event not only provided access to justice but also contributed to the overall well-being and potential rehabilitation of the inmates. It underscored the commitment of legal professionals and stakeholders to ensure that access to justice remains a fundamental right for all, including those within the criminal justice system.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful in the Prison Visit:

1. Provision of critical legal advice and support to inmates.
2. Better-informed inmates ready to engage with the legal system.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Streamlining processes at correctional facilities to avoid time wastage during visits.
2. Development of programs to train more paralegals who can work alongside legal professionals to provide assistance to inmates.

Conclusion:

The one-day prison visit to King'orani Remand Prison during the Legal Awareness Week was a resounding success. It highlighted the commitment of legal professionals and stakeholders to ensure access to justice for all, even within a prison setting. The impact of the event will continue to resonate in the lives of the inmates who received assistance, emphasizing the significance of legal aid in promoting access to justice, rehabilitation, and reintegration.

We extend our gratitude to all participants, sponsors, and the administration of the Mombasa Law Society for their support in making this prison visit a success.

10.5 West Kenya Branch: Kodiaga Prisons

The West Kenya Branch of the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) extended its outreach to Kodiaga Prisons as part of the Legal Awareness Week, collaborating with other chapters in the Kisumu region to provide legal aid and awareness to the incarcerated population.

Legal Aid Initiative at Kodiaga Prisons:



The Legal Awareness Week initiative at Kodiaga Prisons aimed to address the legal needs of inmates and contribute to decongesting prisons. Advocates from the West Kenya Branch, including representatives from Kisumu, Bungoma, Kakamega, Bondo, Mumias, Busia, Webuye, Siaya, Maseno, and Vihiga chapters, gathered at Kodiaga Prisons to offer legal assistance.

The Legal Awareness Week initiative at Kodiaga Prisons aimed to address the legal needs of inmates and contribute to decongesting prisons. Advocates from the West Kenya Branch, including representatives from Kisumu, Bungoma, Kakamega,

Collaboration and Acknowledgments:

The success of the legal aid initiative at Kodiaga Prisons was made possible through the collaborative efforts of advocates from various chapters within the West Kenya Branch. The branch extends its appreciation to all participating chapters and the prison authorities for their cooperation.

Successes and Recommendations:

What Was Successful:

1. Collaboration across multiple chapters ensured a comprehensive approach to legal aid.
2. Positive impact on inmates, addressing various legal issues and concerns.

Recommendations for Next Year:

1. Continue collaboration with various chapters to maximize the reach and impact of legal aid initiatives.

2. Explore possibilities for regular legal awareness programs within correctional facilities.

Conclusion:

The Legal Awareness Week activity at Kodiaga Prisons exemplifies the West Kenya Branch's commitment to extending access to justice to all members of society, including those within the criminal justice system. The collaboration between chapters has proven to be an effective strategy in addressing the legal needs of inmates.

10.6 South Eastern Branch: **(Report Pending from the branch)**

10.7 South Western Branch: **(Report Pending from the branch)**

10.8 Rift Valley Branch: **(Report Pending from the branch)**

11 COMMUNITY SENSITISATION

11.1 Kibera Community: Enhancement of Access to Justice for Poor and Marginalized Women in Nairobi County.

Date: 26 October, 2023

Venue: Kibera Kamukunji Grounds



The collaborative effort between the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) and the Federation of Women Lawyers (FIDA) culminated in a community sensitization event at the Kibera Kamukunji Grounds. This open-air gathering featured an array of activities

designed to engage the community, raise legal awareness, and provide valuable legal

aid services. The presence of Mr. Amocha Nehemiah, the local Chief, added significance to the event as he addressed the assembled crowd, emphasizing its importance.

The event boasted dedicated facilitators who conducted informative sessions, focusing on the central theme of the Legal Awareness Week: "Enhancement of Access to Justice for Poor and Marginalized Women in Nairobi County." In addition to this, the critical topic of "Sexual Gender-Based Violence" took center stage in discussions. The primary objective was to sensitize the community regarding gender-based violence and enhance access to justice for impoverished and marginalized women within Nairobi County.



The community engagement was marked by the active participation of both community members and advocates from the LSK. Their collaboration was notable, and the event received additional support from organizations such as FIDA, Kenya National Human Rights Commission

(KNHRC), Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC), and development partners such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the European Union (EU), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), and Amkeni Wakenya. Representatives from these organizations, including Ms. Gathoni and Ms. Zainab, enriched the event with their valuable insights and contributions.

Entertainment played a vital role in conveying legal messages effectively to the diverse audience, which included both adults and children. The entertainers, known as Wasani Sanna, skillfully employed skits and performances to raise legal awareness, making the event engaging and informative.

Notably, Chief Amwochi, the Chief for Sarangombe Ward, graced the occasion with his presence, underscoring the event's significance in the community. The event also received support from the Social Justice Center representative from Kibera, further reinforcing the collaborative approach adopted.



One of the key achievements of the event was the mobilization of approximately 17 dedicated advocates from the LSK who generously offered their legal aid services to the attendees. Data collected during the event was categorized into two forms: cases related to domestic violence and those concerning gender-based violence. FIDA took the lead in collecting and organizing cases of gender-based violence for further follow-up. The remaining cases were brought back to the LSK for categorization, reassignment to the appropriate Bars to Justice partners, and ongoing follow-ups.

In summary, this one-day open-air event exemplified the fruitful collaboration between the LSK and FIDA in creating legal awareness, enhancing access to justice, and addressing critical issues like gender-based violence within the Nairobi County community. The active participation of multiple stakeholders, including community members, legal advocates, and esteemed organizations, further reinforced the event's success and impact.

11.2 Report on Awareness March and Community Sensitization - LSK North Rift Branch Legal Awareness Week 2023

The Legal Awareness Week event organized by the Law Society of Kenya took place from October 23 to October 27, 2023, involving various activities in Eldoret under the auspices of the LSK North Rift Branch. This clause focuses on the Awareness March through Eldoret Town and the Community Sensitization activities.

Activity Overview:

1. **Number of Participants in the Awareness March:** Approximately 50 participants from various stakeholders, including event organizers, students, legal experts, and members of the public.

Narration:

The Legal Awareness Week commenced with an impactful Awareness March through the bustling streets of Eldoret Town. This parade was characterized by vibrant energy, with participants carrying banners and spreading information about the Legal Awareness Week. Accompanied by a lively music band, the march caught the attention of the broader community and generated significant interest in the event.

The awareness march aimed to inform the public about the Legal Awareness Week and its objectives. The event was a testament to community engagement and legal education, serving as a powerful method to extend the reach and impact of the Legal Awareness Week.

Following the Awareness March, participants engaged in Community Sensitization activities. This part of the event was designed to reach a wider audience and ensure the local community benefited from the Legal Awareness Week. The central focus of the discussions was "Enhancement of Access to Justice for poor and marginalized women in Nairobi County" and the crucial subject of "Sexual Gender-Based Violence." Facilitators led discussions and distributed informational materials to educate the community about their legal rights and avenues for seeking justice.

Recommendations:

1. **Sustained Awareness Campaigns:** To maximize the effectiveness of future Legal Awareness Weeks, it is recommended to organize extended awareness campaigns using methods such as music bands or local artists. These campaigns can run throughout the event week to continuously engage the public.
2. **Community Engagement:** Increasing community engagement is crucial. Encouraging local leaders and social justice organizations to actively participate and support community sensitization can be beneficial.

Conclusion:

The Awareness March through Eldoret Town and the Community Sensitization activities during the Legal Awareness Week were highly successful in promoting legal education and community engagement. These activities not only raised legal awareness

but also provided essential support to the local community. We commend the participants and stakeholders for their dedication and support, and we look forward to implementing the provided recommendations to enhance future Legal Awareness Week event.

We extend our appreciation to all participants, sponsors, and the local community members who participated in the Awareness March and Community Sensitization activities. Their enthusiasm and support significantly contributed to the success of this event.

11.3 Overall Recommendations-Future Community Sensitizations

Based on the substantial turnout and the impact witnessed during the recent community sensitization event, it is strongly recommended that the Law Society of Kenya (LSK) expand its outreach efforts in the upcoming Legal Awareness Week (LAW). The success of reaching a wider audience and effectively addressing legal issues is a testament to the efficacy of taking legal aid directly to the community, especially at the grassroots level.

The experience highlights the importance of proactive community engagement, where LSK brings its services directly to the clients who may not have easy access to legal assistance. By reaching out to the community, LSK can make a more significant impact on addressing legal concerns and providing access to justice for those who need it the most. This proactive approach ensures that legal aid services are accessible, practical, and relevant to the communities they serve.

Expanding community sensitization stations across the country can lead to a more profound and far-reaching impact, especially in areas where legal aid services are often limited or non-existent. By making legal aid services more accessible, LSK can play a crucial role in empowering marginalized communities and ensuring that they are aware of their legal rights and avenues for seeking justice.

In summary, the success of the recent community sensitization event underscores the importance of taking legal aid directly to the community. The recommendation is for LSK to continue and expand such efforts in future Legal Awareness Weeks, contributing to a more inclusive and effective justice system that truly serves all members of society.

12 REPORT ON ADVOCATES DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL DESK DURING LEGAL AWARENESS WEEK 2023

The primary objective of the Advocates Disciplinary Tribunal (ADT) desk was to raise awareness about the existence of the Disciplinary Tribunal among the public and guide them on the process of filing complaints against advocates. Additionally, the desk aimed to receive and assist individuals who had complaints against advocates but were unsure of the appropriate procedures.



Communication: The awareness of the ADT desk was disseminated through the LSK/Newsletter, reaching advocates via email. In addition, 250 fliers and banners titled "Know Your Tribunal" were published and distributed at all High Court stations where the Legal Awareness Week events were held.

Target: The target audience for the ADT desk was the general public, with a focus on individuals who might have grievances against advocates.

Information/Data Collection: Help forms were made available at the Milimani High Court station, where participants could provide details about their complaints, including the nature of the problem and personal information for follow-up purposes.

Number of Participants: The ADT desk was manned by LSK Secretariat staff from the Compliance and Ethics department. During the event, nine members of the public visited the stand, expressing grievances against advocates. Most participants did not

have an existing advocate-client relationship, and they sought assistance in understanding how to register their complaints.



Location: While the Legal Awareness Week took place in all High Court stations nationwide, the ADT desk was specifically stationed at Milimani Law Courts for its inaugural event.

Evaluation: The majority of complaints raised during the event pertained to the withholding of funds, indicating a prevalent issue. A lower-than-expected turnout was observed, potentially attributed to factors such as insufficient funds, late budgeting, and limited advertisement or public awareness.

Recommendations:

1. Timely advertisement and public sensitization for future events.
2. Ensuring timely disbursement of funds and resources for event execution.
3. Deployment of staff to conduct and manage similar events in various branches.
4. Collaboration with other institutions, including Advocates Complaints Commission and Ombudsman, to gather ideas and assistance.
5. Encouragement of advocates to provide legal aid at the ADT desk during future events.
6. Motivation of staff and provision of basic necessities for desk operation.
7. Inclusion of ADT representation during Legal Awareness Week prison visits.

Outcome: A total of nine cases were recorded during the event, and these cases are currently being handled internally by the institution.

13 DATA ANALYSIS: PHASE 1 ACTIVITIES

13.1 Statistics on Legal Aid Clinics

Number of Clients attended to per Branch

Branch	Clients
Isiolo	41
Eldoret	142
Mombasa	123
Kisumu	140
Nairobi	629

Category of Cases Per Region

Column1	Criminal	Civil
Isiolo	25	16
Eldoret	34	108
Mombasa	14	109
Kisumu	30	110
Nairobi	267	320

Referrals to Small Claims Court and Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms

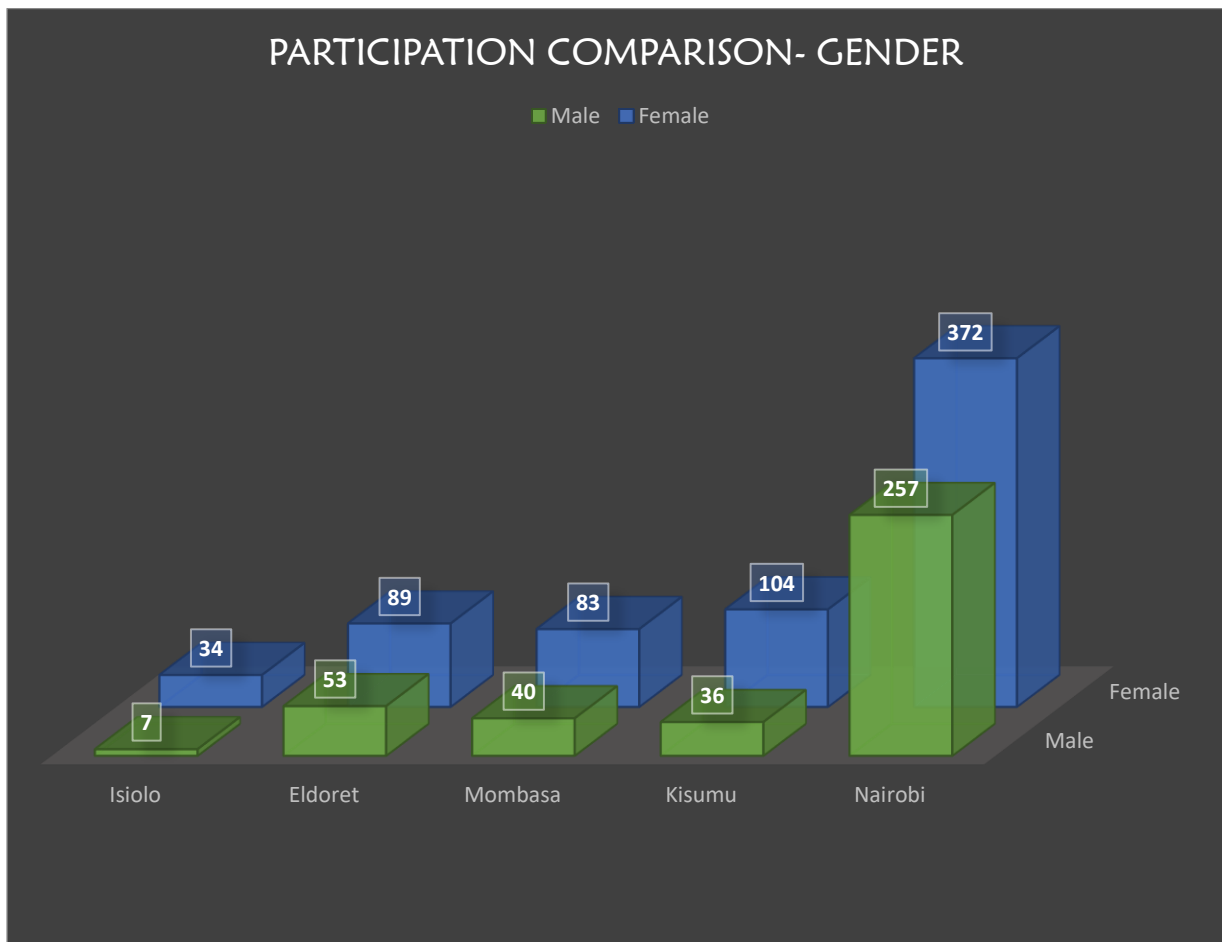
Column1	ADR REFERRALS
Isiolo	3
Eldoret	10
Mombasa	9
Kisumu	13
Nairobi	54

Ratio of clients gender per region:

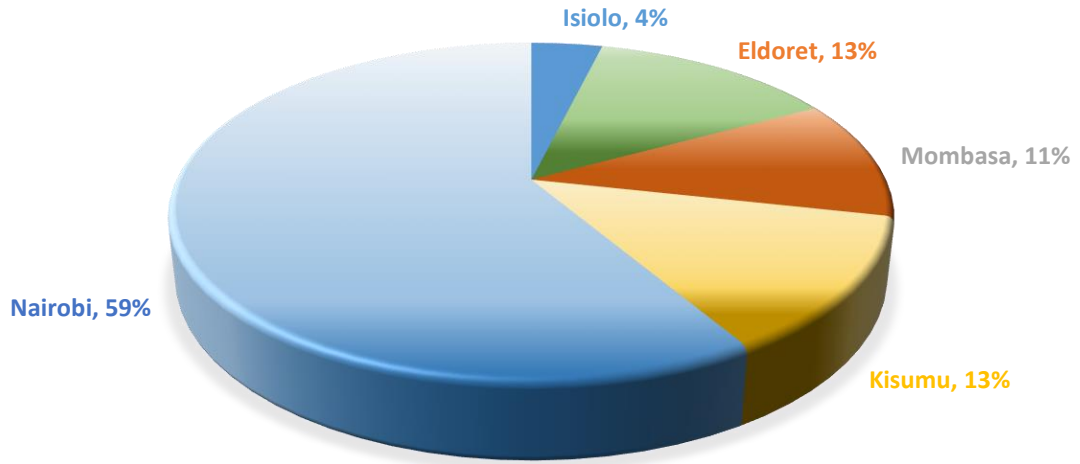
Column1	Male	Female
Isiolo	7	34
Eldoret	53	89
Mombasa	40	83
Kisumu	36	104
Nairobi	257	372

Advice on Plea Bargain:

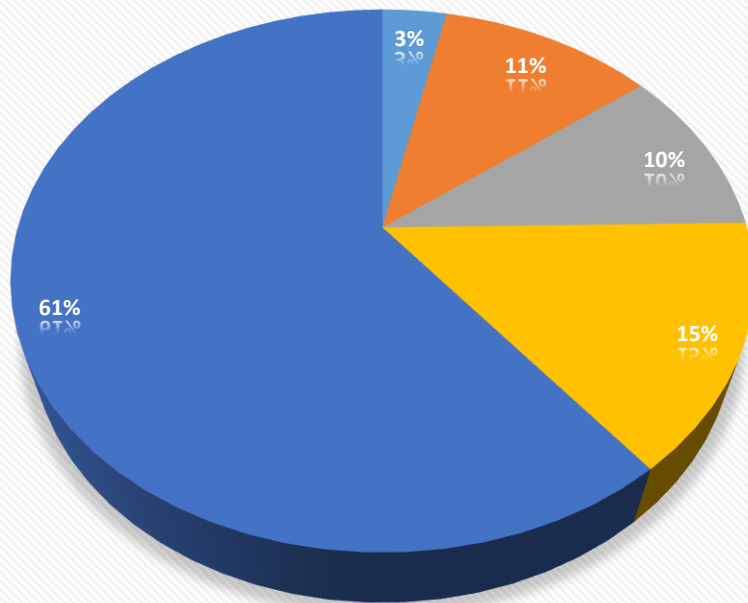
Review for Bail & Bond Application	Advised to enter into a plea deal
5	3
2	3
6	0
9	5
204	118



CLIENTS SERVED ACROSS LEGAL AID CLINICS IN THE COUNTRY



ADR REFERRALS DURING CLINICS



■ Isiolo ■ Eldoret ■ Mombasa ■ Kisumu ■ Nairobi

Analysis of Data: Legal Aid Services in Different Branches

1. Total Number of Clients in Different Branches:

- Isiolo: 41 clients
- Eldoret: 142 clients
- Mombasa: 123 clients
- Kisumu: 140 clients
- Nairobi: 629 clients

2. Types of Legal Cases in Different Branches:

- Criminal cases were prevalent in all branches, with various civil cases, reviews for bail and bond applications, and recommendations for plea deals.
- Nairobi had the highest number of cases across all categories.

3. Most Common Legal Issues Faced by Walk-in Clients:

- The legal issues varied across branches and included assault, theft, defilement, conveyancing, family matters, and more.

4. Ratio of Men to Women Served:

- The gender ratio varied across branches, with Nairobi having the highest number of both male and female clients.

5. Impact/Outcome on Public Perception:

- Specific data on the impact or outcome on public perception was not provided.

6. Public Referrals to Small Claims Courts:

- Referrals to Small Claims Courts were made only in Isiolo, with a total of 3 cases.

7. Clients Expressing Interest in Alternative Dispute Resolution (ADR) Methods:

- ADR referrals were made in all branches, with varying numbers. Nairobi had the highest with 54 cases.

8. Matters Taken Up by Advocates:

- Advocates addressed a variety of matters, including breach of contract, debt recovery, and other legal issues.

9. Referral to Other Bodies:

- Referrals to other bodies were made, including FIDA for custody issues, KNHCR for refugee rights, and NLAS for various legal matters.

10. Success Rate:

- Specific data on the success rate was not explicitly provided. Success may be inferred from the resolution of cases, referrals made, and matters taken up by advocates.

Challenges and Opportunities for Improvement:

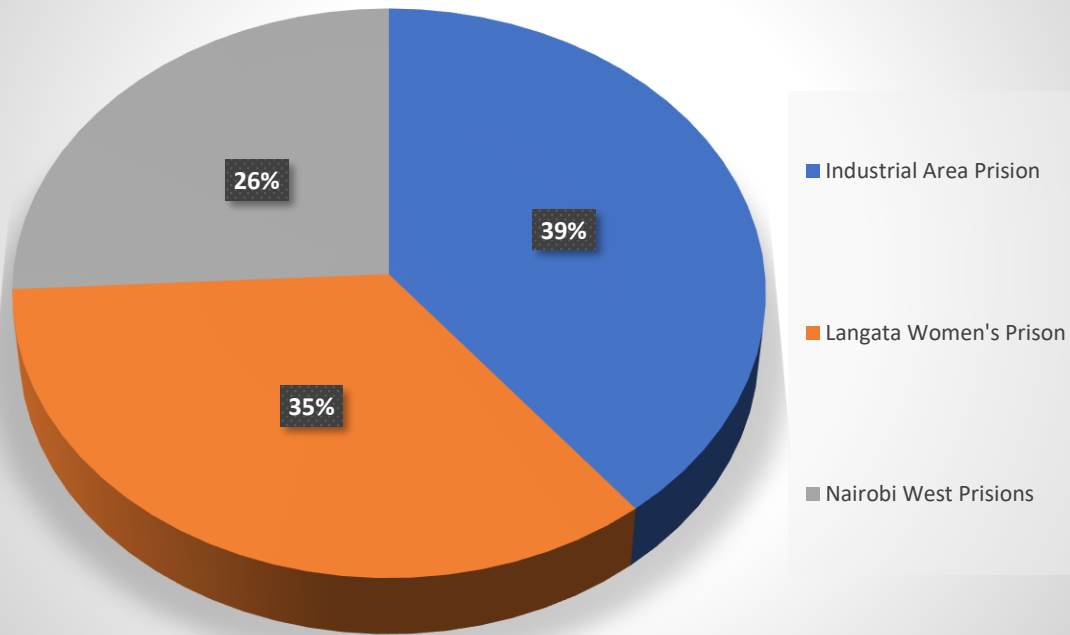
- The data does not provide information on challenges faced by advocates or specific feedback from clients.
- Opportunities for improvement could include addressing challenges in accessing legal aid and gathering more detailed client feedback.

In summary, the legal aid services across different branches demonstrated a wide range of legal issues addressed, with a focus on criminal cases, ADR, and referrals to other relevant bodies. The data suggests active engagement by advocates and a significant number of clients seeking legal assistance.

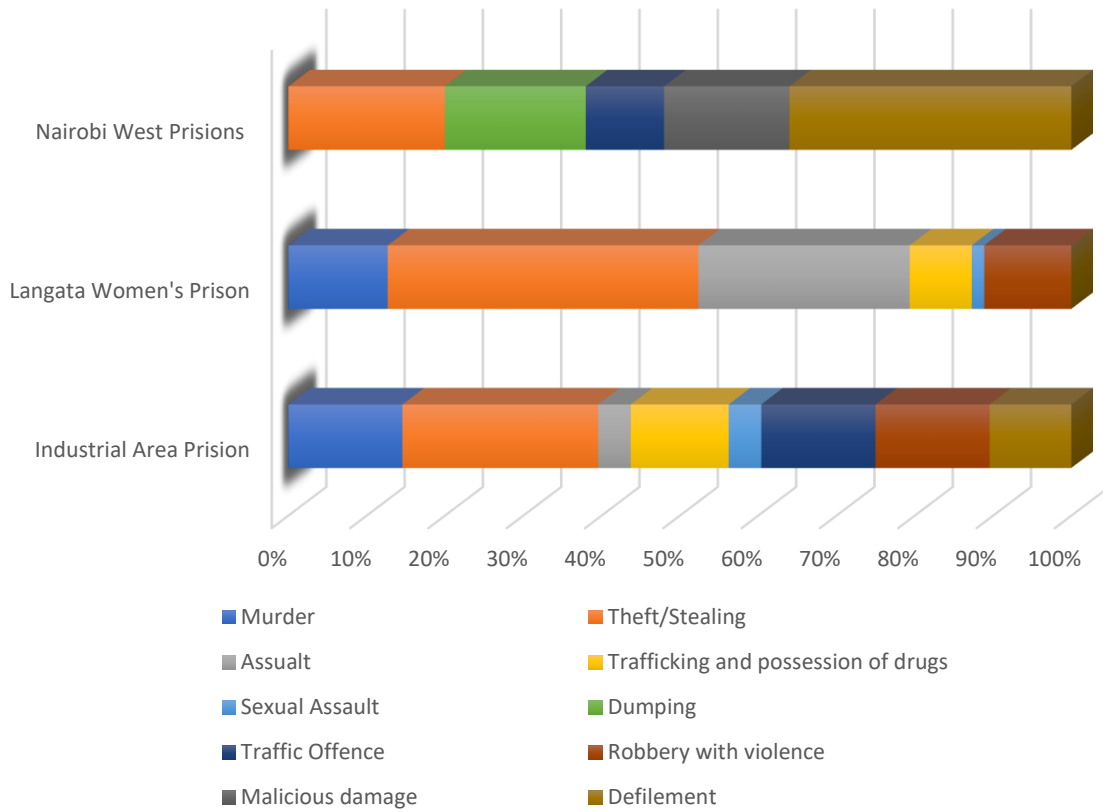
13.2 Statistics on Prison Visits

Column1	Murder	Theft/Stealing	Assault	Trafficking and possession of drugs	Sexual Assault	Dumping	Traffic Offence	Robbery with violence	Malicious damage	Defilement
Industrial Area Prison	7	12	2	6	2	0	7	7	0	5
Langata Women's Prison	8	25	17	5	1	0	0	7	0	0
Nairobi West Prisons	0	10	0	0	0	9	5	0	8	18

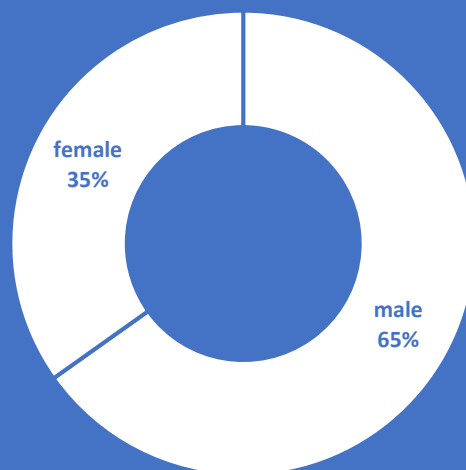
Number of inmates who received free legal aid



Most Common Legal Issues raised in Prisons



LITIGANTS GENDER RATIO



Analysis of Data: Legal Aid Services in Prisons

1. Total Number of Clients in Prisons:

- Industrial Area Prison: 70 clients
- Langata Women's Prison: 62 clients
- Nairobi West Prisons: 46 clients

2. Types of Legal Cases in Prisons:

- Industrial Area Prison:
 - Criminal cases, including reviews of bail, appeals, and various offenses.
 - Most common legal issues: Murder, Stealing, Trafficking & Possession of narcotic drugs, Defilement, Rape, Robbery with Violence, Assault, Traffic Offense.
- Langata Women's Prison:
 - Criminal cases, including reviews of bail/bond, appeals, and cases awaiting probation reports.
 - Most common legal issues: Murder, Stealing, Trafficking & Possession of narcotic drugs, Assault, Robbery, Sexual Assault.
- Nairobi West Prisons:
 - Criminal cases, including reviews of bail/bond, appeals, sentence reviews, and cases awaiting probation reports.
 - Most common legal issues: Defilement, Stealing, Malicious damage, Dumping, Traffic offenses, Rape.

3. Gender Distribution in Prisons:

- Industrial Area Prison: 70 males
- Langata Women's Prison: 62 females
- Nairobi West Prisons: 46 males

4. Matters Taken Up by Advocates:

- Advocates at Industrial Area Prison took up a total of 15 matters, including reviews of bail, appeals, and assistance with obtaining typed proceedings for appeal.
- Advocates at Langata Women's Prison handled 4 matters.
- Nairobi West Prisons had 12 matters taken up, including advice on plea bargaining and non-custodial sentences.

5. Recommendation for Non-Custodial Sentences:

- Non-custodial sentence recommendations were made for various offenses, including traffic offenses, theft, and offenses related to age and health.

6. Referrals to ADR and Other Bodies:

- Industrial Area Prison: 6 referrals to ADR and 7 referrals to other bodies.
- Langata Women's Prison: No specific data on ADR or referrals provided.
- Nairobi West Prisons: No specific data on ADR or referrals provided.

7. Advised to Get a Pro Bono Advocate:

- Industrial Area Prison: 6 clients were advised to get a pro bono advocate.

8. Success Rate:

- The success rate was not explicitly provided in the data. Success may be inferred from the resolution of cases, non-custodial sentence recommendations, and matters taken up by advocates.

9. Legal Issues by Prison and Gender:

- Refer to the table at the end for a breakdown of legal issues by prison and gender.

Challenges and Opportunities for Improvement:

- The data does not provide information on challenges faced by advocates or specific feedback from clients.
- Opportunities for improvement could include addressing challenges in accessing legal aid and gathering more detailed client feedback.

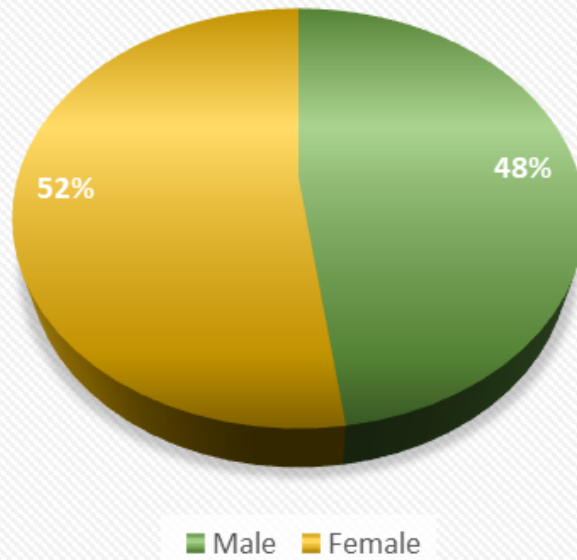
In summary, the legal aid services in prisons addressed a variety of criminal cases, with a focus on reviews of bail, appeals, and non-custodial sentence recommendations. The data suggests active engagement by advocates, with several matters taken up and referrals made to alternative dispute resolution and other relevant bodies.

13.3 Statistics from Kibera Community Sensitisation

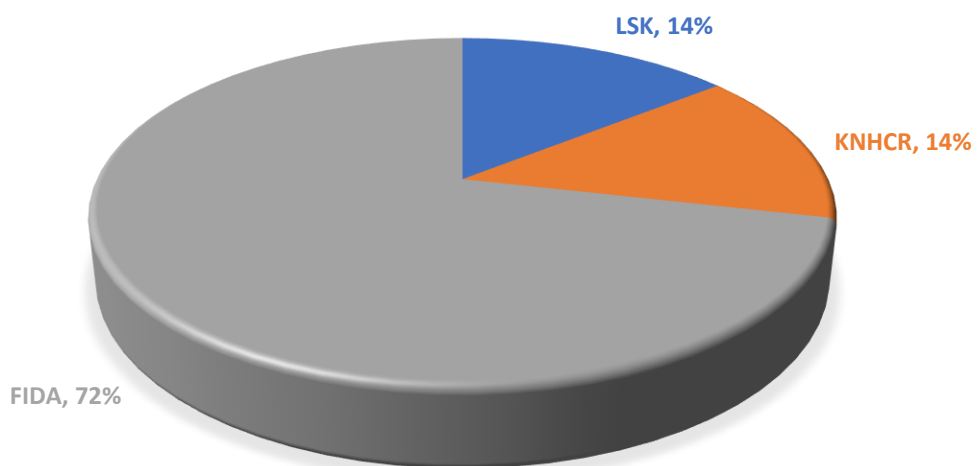
Gender	Gender Ratio
Male	11
Female	12

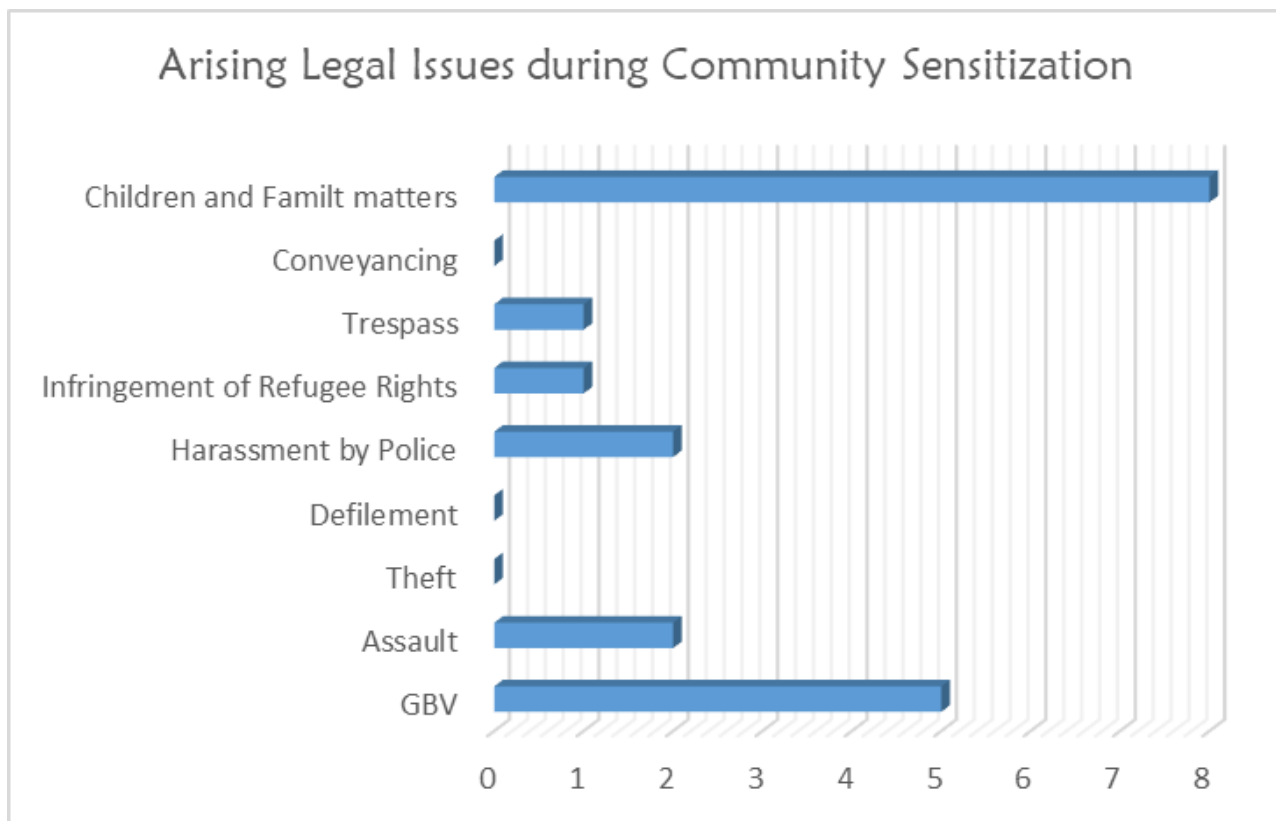
LEGAL ISSUES	rate
GBV	5
Assault	2
Theft	0
Defilement	0
Harassment by Police	2
Infringement of Refugee Rights	1
Trespass	1
Conveyancing	0
Children and Famililt matters	8

Gender Ratio- Participation in Community Sensitization Event(Kibera)



REFERRED ORGANIZATIONS DURING COMMUNITY SENSITIZATION





14 RECOMMENDATIONS AND NEXT STEPS

Based on the comprehensive data and analysis presented in the report, several key recommendations and next steps emerge to enhance the effectiveness of the legal awareness initiatives, Advocates Disciplinary Tribunal (ADT) desk, legal aid clinics, and prison outreach programs. These recommendations aim to address challenges identified during the Legal Awareness Week 2023 and to further improve the delivery of legal services to the public.

14.1 Legal Awareness Week Recommendations:

1. Timely Advertisement and Public Sensitization:

- Implement a robust marketing strategy well in advance of future Legal Awareness Week events. This includes leveraging various channels such as social media, local newspapers, radio, and community outreach programs to maximize public awareness.

2. Strategic Budgeting and Resource Allocation:

- Ensure the timely disbursement of funds and allocate sufficient resources for the successful execution of Legal Awareness Week events. This should include proactive planning to avoid any financial constraints that may impact the outreach programs.

3. Diversification of Event Locations:

- Deploy staff to conduct and manage similar events in various branches across different regions. This will broaden the scope of the awareness campaign and reach a more diverse audience.

4. Collaboration with Relevant Institutions:

- Foster collaboration with other legal institutions, including the Advocates Complaints Commission and Ombudsman. Establishing partnerships will enable the exchange of ideas, expertise, and assistance, contributing to a more comprehensive legal awareness campaign.

5. Involvement of Advocates at ADT Desk:

- Encourage advocates to provide legal aid services at the ADT desk during future events. Their participation can contribute to a better understanding of the complaint process and facilitate smoother interactions between complainants and legal professionals.

6. Motivation of Staff and Resource Provision:

- Motivate staff involved in the organization and execution of Legal Awareness Week events by recognizing their efforts and providing necessary resources. This includes basic necessities for the operation of desks, ensuring a conducive environment for effective service delivery.

7. Inclusion of ADT Representation in Prison Visits:

- Extend the representation of the Advocates Disciplinary Tribunal during prison visits as part of the Legal Awareness Week activities. This ensures that individuals within correctional facilities are informed about the disciplinary processes for advocates.

14.2 Legal Aid Clinic Recommendations:

1. Client-Centric Approach:

- Enhance the legal aid services' client-centric approach by gathering more detailed feedback from clients. This can be achieved through surveys, feedback forms, or follow-up interviews to understand their experience and identify areas for improvement.

2. Addressing Access Challenges:

- Identify and address challenges faced by advocates in providing legal aid services, especially in areas where access to legal assistance may be limited. Implement strategies to overcome geographical, financial, or logistical barriers.

3. Continuous Professional Development for Advocates:

- Facilitate continuous professional development for advocates involved in legal aid clinics. This includes training sessions, workshops, or seminars to keep advocates updated on legal developments and best practices in providing legal aid.

4. Enhanced Collaboration with Referral Bodies:

- Strengthen collaboration with referral bodies, such as FIDA, KNHCR, and NLAS, by fostering open communication channels and streamlining the referral process. This will ensure that clients receive comprehensive legal assistance beyond the scope of the legal aid clinics.

5. Detailed Reporting on Success Rates:

- Implement a system for advocates to provide specific data on the success rates of cases handled during legal aid clinics. This data will contribute to a more thorough understanding of the impact of legal aid services on the community.

14.3 Prison Outreach Program Recommendations:

1. Client-Centric Approach in Prisons:

- Similar to legal aid clinics, adopt a client-centric approach during prison outreach programs. Gather detailed feedback from clients within correctional facilities to understand their needs, challenges, and satisfaction with the legal services provided.

2. Addressing Challenges in Prison Legal Aid:

- Identify and address challenges faced by advocates when providing legal aid services in prisons. This may include logistical challenges, constraints in accessing legal documents, or communication barriers.

3. Expansion of Non-Custodial Sentence Recommendations:

- Expand efforts to recommend non-custodial sentences for a broader range of offenses. This can be achieved through advocacy for alternative sentencing options and collaboration with relevant authorities.

4. Enhanced Data Collection on ADR and Referrals:

- Improve the documentation of alternative dispute resolution (ADR) referrals and interactions with other bodies during prison visits. This will provide a clearer picture of the impact and effectiveness of these initiatives.

5. Promotion of Pro Bono Advocacy:

- Actively promote pro bono advocacy within correctional facilities. Provide information to clients about the availability of pro bono advocates and encourage them to seek such assistance when needed.

14.4 Overall Recommendations:

1. Unified Database and Reporting System:

- Establish a unified database and reporting system that consolidates information from all branches and initiatives. This will streamline data analysis, improve monitoring and evaluation, and facilitate evidence-based decision-making.

2. Continuous Monitoring and Evaluation:

- Implement a continuous monitoring and evaluation framework for all legal awareness initiatives. Regular assessments will help identify emerging trends, challenges, and opportunities for improvement.

3. Community Feedback Mechanism:

- Introduce a community feedback mechanism that allows the public to provide input on legal awareness initiatives. This can be through online platforms, community meetings, or suggestion boxes to ensure that the programs remain relevant and effective.

4. Capacity Building for Staff:

- Provide ongoing training and capacity building for staff involved in legal awareness programs, ensuring that they stay informed about legal developments, effective communication strategies, and community engagement.

In conclusion, the recommendations outlined above aim to build upon the successes of the Legal Awareness Week 2023, Advocates Disciplinary Tribunal desk, legal aid clinics, and prison outreach programs. By addressing identified challenges and leveraging opportunities for improvement, these recommendations seek to create a more robust, accessible, and impactful legal awareness and assistance framework for the benefit of the public and the legal community. Continuous dedication to these recommendations will contribute to the evolution and enhancement of legal services provided by the institution.

15 CONCLUSION

The completion of Phase 1 marks a significant milestone in our endeavor to strengthen legal awareness, advocate disciplinary processes, and legal aid services. The data and insights gathered throughout this phase have provided invaluable information, shedding light on the challenges faced by individuals seeking legal assistance, the efficacy of our current initiatives, and areas for improvement.

We have witnessed active engagement from both the public and legal professionals, as evidenced by the participation in Legal Awareness Week events, interactions at the Advocates Disciplinary Tribunal desk, and the multitude of cases handled in legal aid clinics and prison outreach programs.

While celebrating the successes achieved during Phase 1, it is crucial to acknowledge the identified challenges. Timely advertisement, resource allocation, and public sensitization emerged as focal points for enhancement. The recommendations outlined aim to address these challenges comprehensively, fostering a more robust legal awareness and aid framework.

As we transition to Phase 2, we are excited to announce our next steps. Phase 2 will focus on the training of 200 advocates, equipping them with the skills and knowledge necessary to actively contribute to the decongestion of prisons. This initiative aligns with our commitment to not only raise awareness but also to actively address systemic issues within the legal system.

We recognize the significance of continuous improvement, and Phase 2 underscores our dedication to evolving with the dynamic legal landscape. The engagement of 200 advocates in the decongestion of prisons process reflects our commitment to making a tangible impact on the lives of those within the legal system.

In closing, we extend our gratitude to all stakeholders, including the public, legal professionals, and collaborating institutions, for their unwavering support. The journey from Phase 1 to Phase 2 is a testament to our collective commitment to justice, legal access, and community welfare. Together, we look forward to advancing our mission and creating a legal landscape that truly serves the needs of our society.

16 ANNEXTURES

16.1.1 Photo Gallery

16.1.2 Analyzed data in excel

16.1.3 Agenda of the Breakfast Meeting

16.1.4 Agenda of the L.A.W Launch Day

16.1.5 Concept note- Highlighting Phase 2 of the project