



NOREC EXCHANGE PROJECTS IN KENYA

Updated August 2024

NOR^ÆC NORWEGIAN AGENCY FOR
EXCHANGE COOPERATION



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Photographs

All the images portrayed are real people working in a Norec project and their colleagues from all over the world. Consent has been granted to Norec to use these images to visualise our exchange projects and their effect.

For more information regarding specific photographs or any other content in this pamphlet, contact norec@norec.no

About Norec

The Norwegian Agency for Exchange Cooperation (Norec) is Norway's only competence centre for international exchange. As an executive body under the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, we are a key part of Norway's integrated approach to achieving the UN's sustainable development goals.

Grant Management

Norec's uniqueness lies in supporting work exchanges that provide global learning opportunities for staff and organisations. With a grant for a Norec exchange project, workplaces send employees and volunteers on exchange to another country.

As of 2024, Norec also administers the grant Democracy Through Partnerships, which supports Norwegian political parties and their youth wings in their work to promote democracy globally.

The UN and World Bank

Norec coordinates recruitment of Norwegian citizens to positions funded by the Norwegian government at the UN and the World Bank. This includes positions as Junior Professional Officers and United Nations Volunteers, as well as other secondments. We are currently funding around 40 Norwegian citizens working for various UN agencies, the World Bank and the Asian Bank on all continents. Norec conducts pre-deployment trainings and follows up the secondees throughout their contracts, with an overall goal of increasing the number of Norwegian citizens in international organisations.

Training and Learning

Norec has an interdisciplinary team of trainers. They facilitate learning for staff and partnerships that work internationally. Yearly, Norec arranges between 35-40 courses with over a thousand participants. Norec's courses are interactive and inclusive in order to accommodate people from diverse and multicultural backgrounds.

Building Knowledge

In addition, Norec conducts action-based research to expand and build knowledge in the field of international work exchanges. Multi-method data collections are regularly carried out to inform and improve our trainings and programmes.

As a centre of competence, we strive to build and expand knowledge on how to conduct successful work exchanges – and how to build strong global partnerships.

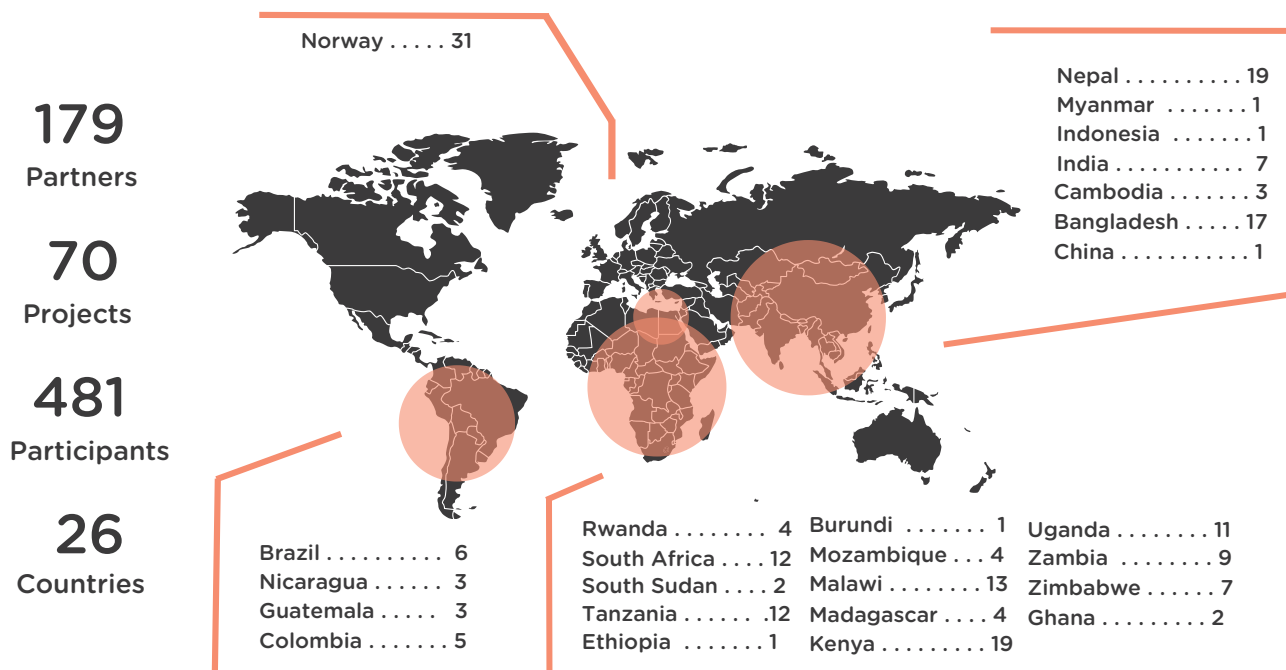
Norec exchange projects

Yearly, over 175 organisations send their staff to work abroad to learn from partners in other countries, creating new or stronger partnerships through practical experience in different contexts and specialisations.

Norec is founded on the principle that collaboration is essential for addressing global challenges. Whether the partnerships are formed with like-minded or different organisations, they strengthen international alliances and work to reach the UN's sustainable development goals.

The majority of the staff that travel abroad in Norec supported projects, gain valuable work experience. Learning and skill transfer gives exchanged project staff professional growth, which upon their return, contributes to their organisations' efficiency and innovation. Over time, the skills and learning are transferred between those that have been on an exchange, the new staff received on job-exchange and the institutions' staff as a whole. This process also promotes organisational and community advancement.

Norec emphasizes the importance of bridging power imbalances and fostering international relationships as essential strategies for solving global issues. It fosters a sense of unity and shared purpose among diverse groups, laying the groundwork for long-term cooperation and mutual benefits. Through a Norec exchange project, organisations gain the expertise needed to achieve their objectives and push for impactful changes, showcasing Norec's dedication to cross-cultural cooperation in global problem-solving.



Former Norec exchanged staff Jeromnie and her story

Jeromnie Akinyi Obwar grew up in an informal settlement in Kisumu, Kenya. She says this about her work exchange to Norway: “That is when I had my self-identity for the first time. I knew who I was. I knew the potentials that I had.”

Upon returning, she volunteered to inform young people about sexual health rights: “We realised that there was something going wrong in our community. The community members could not reach the higher people. We became the ladder for them to use.”

Jeromnie was selected into the Health Management Committee: “that to me is so big. I can meet with those people. I can now influence change directly.”



Partner Youth Alive! Kenya (YAK) and achievements

Staff from Youth Alive! Kenya learnt how to conduct action research while on exchange with Youth Empowerment Transformation Trust in Zimbabwe. YAK applied this method to map the situation for youth in Kenya. A report was compiled, which highlights the gaps in current policies as well as youths' views of what should to be done differently. YAK used the findings to draw attention to the need for change in the electoral process to bring young people out of voter apathy and into politics. The government used key findings from the report to inform governmental youth-focused outreach programmes.

The Norec Network — a resource bank

Since we started in 1963, Norec has supported the exchange of more than 13 000 staff and volunteers between different organisations. These individuals are a resource we want to continue to support. Therefore, we launched the Norec Network in 2023.

We enable the members of Norec Network to share knowledge and expertise, expand their professional network and join physical and digital network activities, and this way, we help keep their engagement going even after their exchange period has ended.

This network works as a resource bank for Norec, where we can gather advice and input from the members. They have helped with facilitation, logistics and interpretation for trainings we have conducted in their home countries.

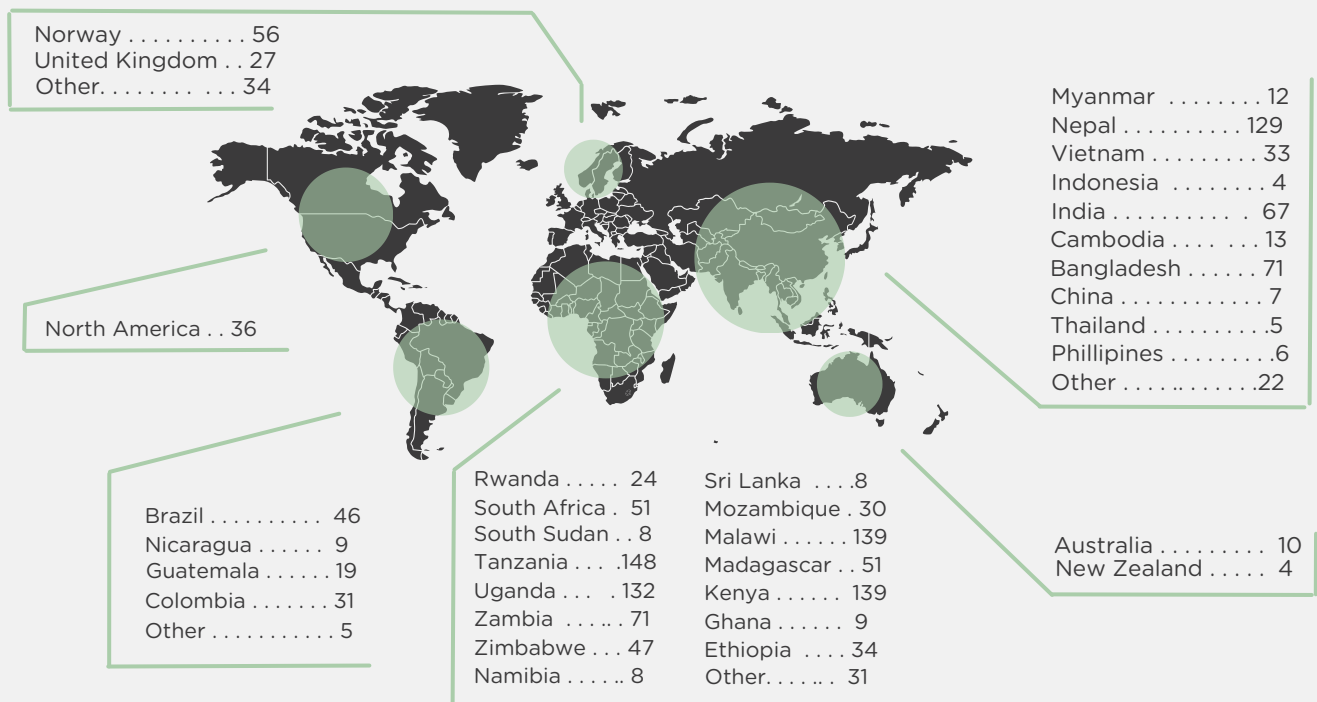
The Norec Network is available for the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and associated embassies to utilise as a resource.

If you wish to get further information on how you can utilise this resource, or have any questions related to the network, please contact training@norec.no.

Norec Network members as of april 2024

1,638

Home countries of members of Norec Network as of 2024



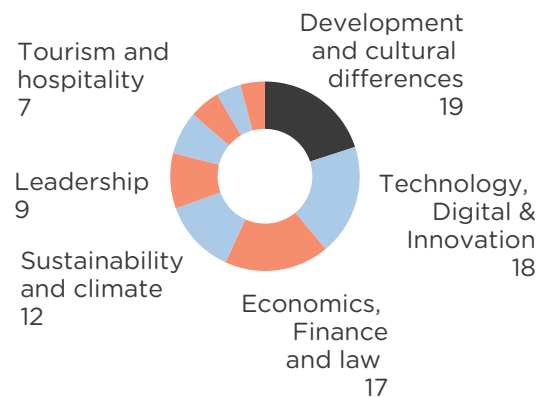
The Norec Network in Kenya

194

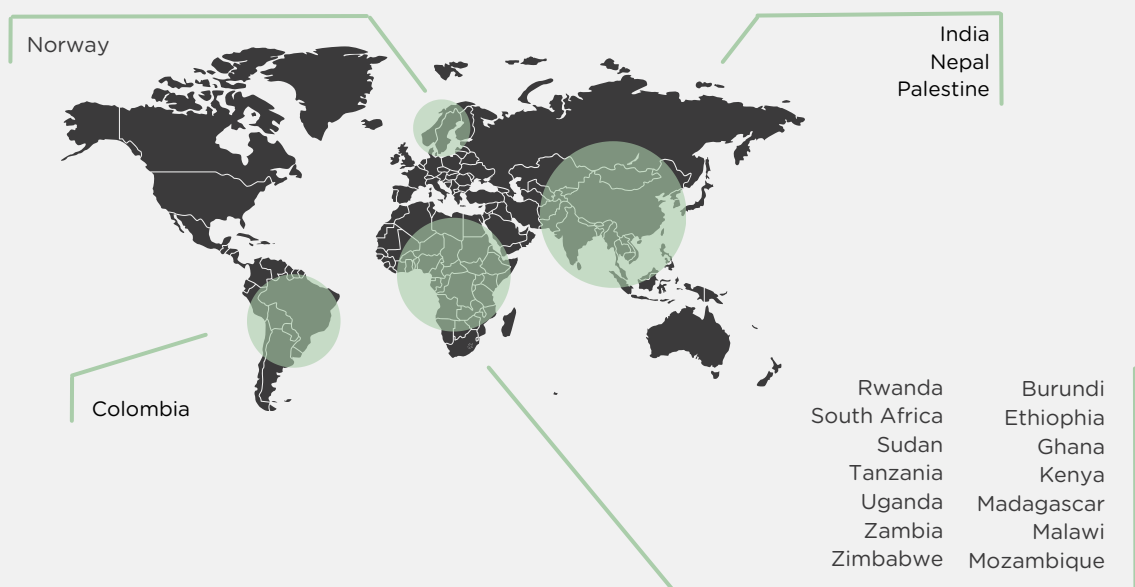
**Kenyan members of
Norec Network
as of April 2024**

148 members of Norec Network in Kenya live in and around Nairobi. A further 22 members live in the coastal region, including Mombasa. Approximately 20 members of Norec Network live in the Western part of Kenya.

The members of Norec Network in Kenya list these as their **experiences** and expertise



Countries Kenyan members of Norec Network exchanged to



NOREC EXCHANGE BETWEEN
LABOREMUS UGANDA AND QUESNAY IN
NORWAY.
CREDIT: KRISTINE FOLLAND, NOREC



Overview

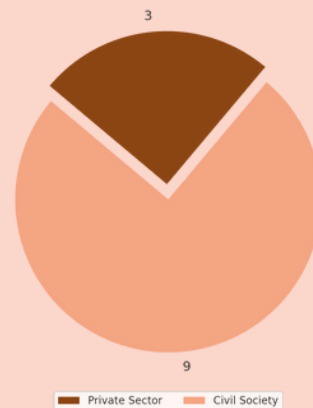
Norec exchange projects in Kenya

The numbers: Kenya

\$14,9 M

Total grants to organisations in Kenya

The 11 projects with Norec support in Kenya, received funds of 14 million USD in 2023.

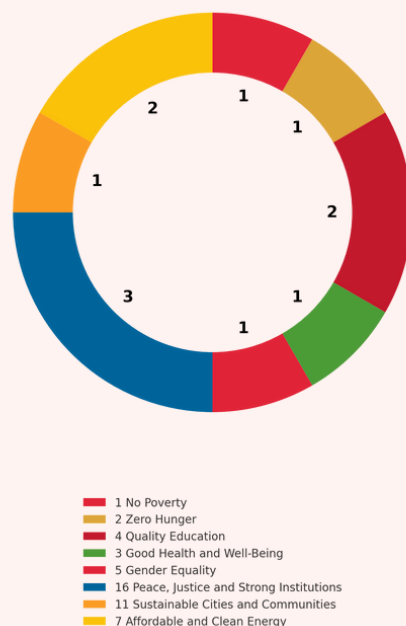


Out of the 11 projects, 9 are with Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and 2 are within the private sector.

Exchange projects and their Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

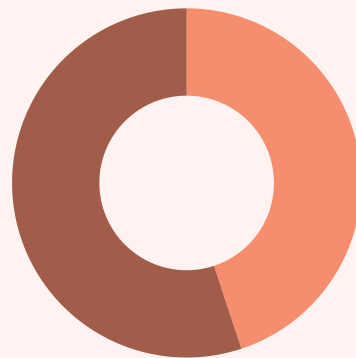
All Norec projects promote sustainability goal 17, both by strengthening the tools and methods used to achieve results, and by supporting new global partnerships for sustainable development.

In Kenya, the most common sustainable development goal 16, Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions and goal number 7 Affordable and Clean Energy for Norec projects.



Norec staff and volunteers

There are 69 staff members from, or in, Kenya receiving Norec support. 38 of them are Kenyans working abroad in a Norec exchange project, while 31 are Norec staff from other countries working in Kenya in 2024.



Organisations have partners in the following countries

In a partnership supported by Norec, organisations, public institutions and private business from over 25 countries cooperate to promote the Sustainable Development Goals.

For the projects with Kenyan partners, the collaborating organisations are spread over the countries listed to the right.

Uganda
South Africa
Rwanda
Brazil
Bangladesh
Burundi
Malawi
Tanzania
Norway

Nepal
Cameroon
Colombia
Madagascar
Zambia
Madagascar
Zimbabwe
Ghana

Norec partners in Kenya

Organisation	City	Contact person	E-mail	Start	End
DataDrivenFinance Kenya Ltd.	Nairobi	Jan Martin Hunderi	jmh@ddfinance.com	2021	2024
Fellowship of Christian Unions (FOCUS Kenya)	Nairobi	Issa Gachanja Thuo	ekaranja@focuskenya.org	2022	2027
GVL Energy Platform Ltd.	Nairobi	Allan Linus Gichuki	gichukiventures@gmail.com	2023	2025
International Commision of Jurists Kenyan Section (ICJ Kenya)	Nairobi	Elsy Sainna	info@icj-kenya.org	2024	2026
iServe Afrika	Nairobi	Ngari Stanley Wandeto	info@iserveafrica.org	2023	2026
Kenya Girl Guides Association (KGGA)	Nairobi	Linnet Odero	info@kgga.co.ke	2021	2026
Participatory Ecological Land Use Management (PELUM) Kenya	Thika	Rosinah Mbenya	pelumkenya@pelum.net	2022	2025
Shack Dwellers International Kenya (SDI Kenya)	Nairobi	Joseph Kimani	joskimani2013@gmail.com	2023	2026
Sote Hub	Mombasa	David Ogiga	info@sotehub.com	2023	2024
Sunami Solar Kenya Limited	Mombasa	Moses Dokoria	dokoria.moses@sunamisolar.co.ke	2023	2025
Taveta Sub County Taita Taveta County Government	Taveta	Anne Akinyi Olubulyera	tavetatowncouncil@yahoo.com	2023	2026
Techbridge Invest Africa Limited	Mombasa	Frøydís Archer	tcf@techbridgeinvest.com	2024	2026
TRACE Kenya	Mombasa	Paul Adhoch	info@tracekenya.org	2022	2025
Youth Alive! Kenya	Nairobi	George Maina	info@youthalivekenya.org	2022	2025
YWCA Kenya	Nairobi	Beth Kawira	rpepela@ywcakenya.org	2021	2026

NOREC PARTICIPANT CAROLINE
STORHAUG FROM HAUKELAND
UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL WORKING AT
MNAZI MMOJA HOSPITAL PÅ ZANZIBAR I
TANZANIA.
CREDIT: MAIKEN AA. SOLBAKKEN



Norec exchange projects

124304A Global Link Afrika 2023-2025

DAC Sub Sector

12261 Health education

Sustainable Development Goal

3. Good Health and Well-Being

The partners work to improve access to primary healthcare services in marginalised communities in Kenya and Uganda, and to improve the health systems. Both partners are working within community-based healthcare in off-grid and rural areas. Their goals are to improve maternal and child health services, raise awareness on malaria prevention, and improve access to health services for youth.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$42000	24	2023	2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- iServe Afrika
- Global Link Africa

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Uganda

Services to persons with special needs

DAC Sub Sector

Basic health care

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL

3. Good Health and Well-Being

The partners focus on people with intellectual and mental challenges - and services, information and stigma that affect this group. The partner in Norway will explore how group-based volunteer services can be used to overcome limitations in the health system. In Taveta Sub County, the partner will focus on advocacy and spreading information about persons with intellectual challenges, and raise their standing in society.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$564936	12	2023	2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Taveta Sub County Taita Taveta County Government
- Melhus kommune

COUNTRIES

- Norway
- Kenya

A WORKSHOP WITH NOREC PARTNER
YOUTH ALIVE! KENYA IN MOMBASA IN
2022. CREDIT: MAIKEN AA. SOLBAKKEN



TRAINING IN BOGOTA, COLOMBIA.
CREDIT: KRISTINE FOLLAND; NOREC



Protected Homes

DAC Sub Sector

Business
development
services

Sustainable Development Goal

1. No poverty

The partners in Norway and Kenya work to supply low-income households with affordable collective-based health insurance, and will use this project to improve their distribution structures and building sustainable cost-effective sales channels. The partners aim to leave a clear digital footprint in the insurance industry.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Exchanged staff	Project start	Project end
\$812772	18	2021	2024

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- DataDrivenFinance Kenya Ltd.
- DataDrivenFinance AS

COUNTRIES

- Norway and Kenya

Development of hydropower talents in East Africa

DAC Sub Sector

Hydro-electric
power plants

Sustainable Development Goal

7. Affordable
and Clean
Energy

The partners aim to develop young talents within the hydropower industry in East Africa, as well as to accelerate development of hydropower projects. Their project is centred through recruitment of local young talents into real project positions in small-scale hydropower projects, giving them hands-on responsibility, while being guided by experienced personnel.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Supported employees	Project start	Project end
\$318825,2	7	2023	2025

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- GVL Energy Platform Ltd.
- Malthe Winje AS
- Agatobwe Hydropower Ltd

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Norway
- Rwanda



Strengthening the partnership for youth access to life skill based SRHR

DAC Sub Sector

15160 Human rights

Sustainable Development Goal

3. Good Health and Well-Being

The project addresses young people's rights to and need for life skills education related to Sexual Reproductive Health Rights (SRHR) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Through the exchange of skilled personnel, the partnership will develop tools and mechanisms to empower youth to take action in their own lives and claim their rights.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant

Total staff and volunteers

Project start

Project end

\$2501616,3

48

2021

2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- YMCA of Ethiopia
- YWCA Kenya
- Stiftelsen Amatheia
- KFUK-KFUM Global
- YWCA South-Sudan
- KFUK-KFUM Global South Sudan (Y Global South Sudan)
- Youth Peace Makers - Tanzania

COUNTRIES

- Ethiopia
- Kenya
- Norway
- South Sudan
- Tanzania



Bridging Skill Gaps & Developing Sustainable Renewable Energy Solutions in East & West Africa

DAC Sub Sector

23231 Solar energy for isolated grids and standalone systems

Sustainable Development Goal

7. Affordable and Clean Energy

Share technical and administrative knowledge on solar energy in the African market, and ensure that more African communities have access to clean energy.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$478912	10	2023	2025

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Sunergy Cameroon
- Sunami Solar Kenya Limited
- Multiconsult Norge AS
- Sunami Solar Uganda Limited

COUNTRIES

- Cameroon
- Kenya
- Norway
- Uganda

SDI Youth Leadership Development & Exchange Programme

DAC Sub Sector

16010 Social/welfare services

Sustainable Development Goal

11. Sustainable Cities and Communities

This project, part of the Slum Dwellers International (SDI) Network, helps people living in slums worldwide improve their homes and increase their influence. It shares knowledge on getting better housing, mapping communities, upgrading slums, boosting livelihoods, and adapting to the climate. Activities include group savings, raising awareness, backing climate action, and creating solutions based on community services. The aim is to give slum residents better access to safe homes and necessary services, and prepare them for climate challenges.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$22000	16	2023	2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Shack Dwellers International Kenya (SDI Kenya)
- Centre for Community Organisation and Development (CCODE)
- Slum Dwellers International (SDI)
- ACTogether Uganda

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Malawi
- South Africa
- Uganda

Entrepreneurial advancement in Agriculture, Blue Economy and Renewable Energy in East Africa

DAC Sub Sector

Business development services

Sustainable Development Goal

8. Decent Work and Economic Growth

This initiative focuses on helping startups in Agriculture, Renewable Energy, and the Blue Economy in Kenya and Tanzania by making it easier for them to get funding, find market opportunities, and connect with international networks. It aims to strengthen the support system, improve entrepreneurial skills, and encourage sharing knowledge and working together to build sustainable businesses that help everyone in East Africa. The project includes making Techbridge and MTI better at helping startups grow and manage their businesses, while UiA wants to share its knowledge of entrepreneurship with a wider audience.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$50900	18	2024	2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Techbridge Invest Africa Limited
- Universitetet i Agder
- MTI Investment Ltd Tanzania

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Norway
- Tanzania

Youth Digital Entrepreneurship Exchange Program (Y-DEEP)

DAC Sub Sector

11430
Advanced
technical and
managerial
training

Sustainable Development Goal

**4. Quality
Education**

The project Youth Digital Entrepreneurship Exchange Program (Y-DEEP) provides youth with digital entrepreneurship skills, as a tool to address high unemployment rates among youth in South Africa, Kenya and Uganda. They also want to increase the partner organisations capacity as development organisations.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$41237,9	16	2023	2024

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Sote Hub
- Suff Academy
- Kyusa

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- South Africa
- Uganda

Increase Awareness of Policy makers, Media and Citizens on Human Trafficking in East Africa

The project aims to increase awareness on the topic of human trafficking. They want to achieve this both by spreading information and sharing knowledge to the general population in Kenya and Rwanda. They will also lobby towards policymakers to improve policies on migration, and to support victims of human trafficking.

DAC Sub Sector

**Social/ welfare
services**

Sustainable Development Goal

**16. Peace,
Justice and
Strong
Institutions**

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$30000	8	2022	2025

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- TRACE Kenya
- Pax Press

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Rwanda



Transforming the Justice Sector in East and Southern Africa through Exchange of legal technical expertise

The overall objective of the project is to enhance the participants' understanding and knowledge of legal systems, processes, and institutions, and to develop their skills in legal analysis, advocacy, problem-solving, and research. This will enable them to bring comparative justice and legal experience to solution table and to jointly promote the rule of law and democracy in East and Southern Africa.

DAC Sector

Civil Society

Sustainable
Development
Goal

16 Peace, Justice
and Strong
Institutions

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$ 544 000	8	2024	2026

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Africa Judges & Jurists Forum (AJJF)
- Legal Resources Foundation (LRF) - Zimbabwe
- Foundation of Human Rights Initiative (FHRI)
- International Commission of Jurists Kenyan Section (ICJ Kenya)

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- South Africa
- Uganda
- Zimbabwe

Meaningful Youth Participation in socio-economic and political decision-making processes

DAC Sub Sector

Democratic participation and civil society

Sustainable Development Goal

16. Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

The project is designed to create awareness and strengthen systems related to critical issues impacting young people. The partners use peer-to-peer networking, training sessions and local engagement to create opportunities for youth leaders. They work simultaneously through their mother organisations and nation-wide member organisations and youth clubs in Kenya, Zimbabwe and Malawi.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$111000	42	2022	2025

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Youth Alive! Kenya
- Centre for Youth Empowerment and Civic Education (CYECE)
- Youth Empowerment and Transformation Trust (YETT)

COUNTRIES

- Kenya
- Malawi
- Zimbabwe

Interact

DAC Sub Sector

Democratic participation and civil society

Sustainable Development Goal

4. Quality Education

The project aim to create youth and organisations that are better equipped to address the challenges in their societies. The project works to strengthen young people through multicultural experiences. They support and cultivate young participants, making them more confident in their skills and becoming better leaders for their organisations.

PROJECT KEY FACTS

Estimated total grant	Total staff and volunteers	Project start	Project end
\$2124709	22	2022	2027

PROJECT ORGANISATIONS AND INSTITUTIONS

- Bible Students Fellowship of Bangladesh (BSFB)
- Alianca Bíblica Universitária do Brazil (ABUB)
- Unidad Cristiana Universitaria Colombia (UCU)
- Fellowship of Christian Unions (FOCUS Kenya)
- Union des Group Biblique de Madagascar (UGBM)
- Norges kristelige student- og skoleungdomslag (NKSS)

COUNTRIES

- Bangladesh
- Brazil
- Colombia
- Kenya
- Madagascar
- Norway

**Contact Information**

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