LOCAL CHALLENGE PROJECT 2020: Accelerating the SDGs

KIBERA PUBLIC SPACE PROJECT
NAIROBI, KENYA

PROJECT: CIVIL SOCIETY
STATUS: IN PROCESS

SDGs CONSIDERED: 1, 6, 9, 11

"We were all involved with the design of the school – everything I did involved us, and whatever we wanted and needed. The model and space design to represent Kibera. It's our home, how we feel we have the best school – the best structure, the best design, with the best materials." – Michael, Pedacine Director of Kibera Public Space Project

PROJECT OVERVIEW
Kibera was once one of the worst-off neighborhoods in Africa. The area is one of the most densely populated in the world, characterized by informal settlements, substandard housing, and limited access to basic amenities. The lack of public spaces makes it a challenge for the local community to interact and socialize. However, the Kibera Public Space Project (KPSP) is changing that. It is a community-driven initiative aimed at transforming a section of Kibera into a green, safe, and inclusive public space.

Since 2016, the Kenya Urban Development Agency (KUZA) has partnered with community groups in Kibera to develop a 1.5-hectare green space, with the aim of creating a safe and vibrant public space that promotes social interaction and enhances the quality of life for the residents. The KPSP project is a comprehensive community-driven project that involves various stakeholders, including local residents, government agencies, and international partners.

PARTNERS: Local government, community groups, international partners, and local businesses.

PROJECT IMPACTS
The KPSP project has transformed a section of Kibera into a vibrant public space, promoting social interaction, enhancing the quality of life for residents, and encouraging community engagement. The project has also created employment opportunities for local residents, fostering economic growth and development.

The KPSP project is a great example of community-driven initiatives that can bring about positive change in urban areas. It demonstrates the power of collaboration between government agencies, community groups, and international partners to address urban challenges and promote sustainable development.

PROJECT OUTCOMES
The KPSP project has achieved its primary goal of creating a green, safe, and inclusive public space in Kibera. The project has not only improved the physical environment but has also enhanced social cohesion and community engagement.

The KPSP project has also created employment opportunities for local residents, fostering economic growth and development. The project has also contributed to the city's overall urban renewal efforts, promoting sustainable development and enhancing the quality of life for residents.

PROJECT TAKEAWAYS
- Community-driven initiatives can bring about positive change in urban areas.
- Collaboration between government agencies, community groups, and international partners can address urban challenges and promote sustainable development.

"With the network, if Site 1 has a problem, we go there; if Site 2 has a problem, we go there too. We get together and we talk to each other. We have gained skills in finance – we didn’t know how to do it. The KPSP project has been an opportunity to learn together. We can educate each other and create awareness. The group has a hall on which we can talk about what we’ve learned. We can come together and learn to make decisions and find answers."

"The environment has changed. At first, passing through, it was very serious – I was really afraid. Now we pass freely. When it had rained heavily, we couldn’t come here before – the water would wash us away. Today it is wide. It is no longer big. I hope it gets better."

"We have become role models to the community. The group has created jobs. We have also gained skills – people are doing the same thing, making compost, they have gained new knowledge." – Jacob, Member of KPSP
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TARGET 1-5: Build resilience to environmental shocks and social disasters
TARGET 6-6: Protect and restore water-related ecosystems
TARGET 8-A: Facilitate sustainable infrastructure development for developing countries
TARGET 9-3: Inclusive and sustainable urbanization
TARGET 11-3: Provide access to safe and inclusive green and public spaces
TARGET 11-7: Implement policies for inclusion, resource efficiency and disaster risk reduction

FUNDERS: [List of funders]
PARTNERS: [List of partners]
PROJECT TEAM: [List of project team members]