“The secret message communicated to most young people today by the society around them is that they are not needed, that the society will run itself quite nicely until they — at some distant point in the future — will take over the reigns. Yet the fact is that the society is not running itself nicely... because the rest of us need all the energy, brains, imagination and talent that young people can bring to bear down on our difficulties. For society to attempt to solve its desperate problems without the full participation of even very young people is imbecile.”

Alvin Toffler
In order to reap the youth dividend, partners must think, and act together to Make The Youth Factor Count. This month Youth Agenda secretariat paid a courtesy call to the Norwegian ambassador, H.E Elin Bergithe Rognlie. We discussed the potential of Kenya’s young people (70% of the population), opportunities to engage and most importantly the role and space for young people in building a better Kenya.

We look forward to potential partnerships with the Peoples of Norway to raise the voice and agency of young people to advocate for the space of youths in the social, economic and political life.

“Our youth are not failing the system; the system is failing our youth. Ironically, the very youth who are being treated the worst are the young people who are going to lead us out of this nightmare.” — Rachel Jackson

Youth Agenda undertook a social audit on the responsiveness of county government projects to youth in the counties of Tharaka Nithi and Trans Nzoia.

The social audit is a community-led process targeting public participation in the monitoring of government service delivery and public expenditure. It is a continuum entailing reviewing government documents and comparing them with their experiences as recipients of public services.

We are in the process of gathering, presenting and collating information that is shared with the community and discussed with government officials at a public hearing. The audits are envisaged to offer a forum for communities to articulate their demands and turn public participation and democracy into real-
FUN FACTS...

DID YOU KNOW?

That the Government promised to put up various centers of excellence and innovation to tap into the talent pool of young people?

And

That 30% of all appointments, budgets and projects would specifically be targeted for young people?

And

That we will have a Scale Up of the Studio Mashinani and Talent Pia Ni Kazi program?

I thought you should know....

For this and more information check out Quick Facts 2017 by clicking on this link;

http://www.youthagenda.org/publications

Or our You-tube Channel here...

https://www.youtube.com/TheYouthAgenda

YOUNG MCAS TRAINING

ELEMENTAITA SENTRIM LODGE, NAIVASHA

28TH-30TH MARCH 2019

PHOENICIA HOTEL, KIAMBU

10TH APRIL 2019

In order to make strides in effecting change, young people need a seat at the table and in order to make meaningful change, we must be equipped with the requisite skills and strategies. In this light, Youth Agenda held two capacity building trainings for young Members of County Assembly from seven counties to improve their ability to represent the needs and demands of their constituents. The trainings focused on the legislative processes in the assembly such as passing bills in the assembly, holding hearings, and conducting oversight of the executive.
THE PATHWAY TOWARDS REALIZATION OF THE 2/3RD GENDER PRINCIPLE.

The 2010 Kenya Constitution clearly underpins the fact that there can only be real progress in the society if all citizens fully participate in governance and no individual or group is excluded from the affairs of the republic.

Article 81(b) of the constitution states that the electoral system shall comply with the principle that not more than two-thirds of the members of elective public bodies shall be of the same gender.

The 2/3rd Gender principle is yet to be implemented in Kenya’s National Assembly. This is after three unsuccessful attempts by the Parliament to pass the bill.

Youth Agenda in partnership with Kenya Young MCAs Association (KYMCA) and FIDA Kenya organized a review session for young MCAs to discuss and strengthen women’s role in decision making and advocate for the implementation of the 2/3rd gender principle at all levels of governance.

YAA is also a member of Deliver for Good Kenya Advisory Group which is a multi-year advocacy campaign bringing together diverse stakeholders to drive the progress of gender equality and sustainable development goals (SDGs).

DID YOU KNOW

The First parliament in Kenya between 1963-1969 had ZERO women representation!

Did you know that in East Africa, Rwanda has 56.3% women representation in Parliament and Ranked First globally?

Kenya is ranked 5th in East Africa with 23% female representation and globally ranked 102.

Amidst a lot of barriers and challenges, the role of women in decision making process is slowly but painfully taking root in Kenya.

To read more about the journey of women in politics, check out Youth Agenda’s publication on; Young women in Politics on the website.

Youth Agenda Board Chair, Linda Bonyo, The CEO Diana Sifuna together with KYMCA officials
“We all benefit by having young people exposed to the ‘way things are done’ in a democratic society. Isn’t it time... to ‘tap the power of youth?’”

Hans Bernard

### SUMMARY OF THE EVENTS

**Social Audit:** Youth agenda will conduct a social audit of youth-related projects in five counties; Nandi, Kisumu, Kwale, Nairobi and Nakuru.

**The 2019 Youth Leadership convention:** The forum sets to bring together different stakeholders and youth leaders to discuss the milestone made on the matter of youth inclusion.

**The 4th annual Legislative Summit:** The summit brings together counties and creates a platform for positive engagement between the legislative arms of the devolved system and the senate. This year’s summit will be held in Kisumu county.

**The Bi-monthly Youth Meeting:** Youth Agenda will have several meetings with youths in Transzooia and Tharaka to discuss the findings of the recently conducted social audit and seek the way forward on strategies to present the same to the county government.

**Elevate Mentee Orientation:** Youth Agenda has a program which mentors youths from diverse backgrounds on economic life skills. This funky activity seeks to orient them on how to use the innovative online mentorship tool.
THE JOURNEY CONTINUES.....

For over two decades now, Youth Agenda has been a leading advocate for young people by developing their capacity to take charge of their affairs in their counties through leadership trainings and support, knowledge generation and dissemination as well as facilitating platforms for them to engage in governance and development processes. YAA also closely monitors and tracks youth participation through engaging in advocacy campaigns to protect and promote youth access to political, economic and social opportunities. As a result of its strategy, YAA has built and sustained a youth network throughout the country earning admiration and respect among its peers.