



**Proposed Project Title:** *Addressing Critical Barriers to Girls' Education in Lamu County*

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**Address of the Organization:**

TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE  
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Mpeketoni-Lamu  
Tel: +254 737 592266  
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**Contact Person:**

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**Proposal Submitted to**

Global Giving

**Date submitted:**

October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019

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## 1. About Toto Centre Initiative;

Toto Centre Initiative (TCI) is a Child Centered Community Based Organization (CBO) in Lamu County. The organization was founded on January 2019 and officially registered as a CBO in May 2019 by the State department of Social Development in Lamu (registration number CSD/HDM/LMU/CBO/VOL.V/094).

Our primary mission as a CBO is to work directly with children, school community members, key departments from County and National government, and like-minded organizations to address and eliminate social and cultural barriers that affect education of Boys and Girls in Lamu County.

To drive and sustain our mission, Toto Centre Initiative is guided by the following:

- i. The Constitution of Kenya (*Article 53*) on the Rights of Children,
- ii. The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) (*Article 11*) on a Child's Right to Education and personal development, and;
- iii. United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) (*Articles 19, 28 and 42*) on Protection from Violence, Abuse and Neglect; the Right to Education; and the State's obligation to inform children and families of their rights.

Primary objectives guiding activities of the organization include;

- i. Partner with relevant institutions to conduct research that informs current socio-cultural gaps/norms/beliefs affecting learning of children in the county.
- ii. Use data to design, implement and monitor child protection activities that empowers disadvantaged children to understanding their rights.
- iii. Works with Children, key departments from County and National Government, Community members and likeminded organizations in developing child friendly by-laws and policies that addresses all forms of discrimination and violence against children.

Toto Centre Initiative came into birth following the end of a two years project (May 2017-May2019) by Aga Khan Foundation that aimed to Bring out of School Child to School (BOS) in Lamu County. The project was supported by UNICEF Kenya where it targeted to identify and enroll back to school 6500 Orphan and Vulnerable Children who had dropped out of primary school because various socio-economic challenges.

Key intervention of the Bringing out of school children to school project was mainly economic support of monthly cash transfer to guardians and parents of the enrolled beneficiary children. The cash transfer support was to enable them address various economical needs causing their children to drop out of school like lack of uniforms, stationery and other activity fees. Through the BOS project, a total of 6983 out of school children (3608 boys and 3375 girls) were brought back, enrolled and sustained in school.

The concluded project was mainly addressing economical gaps that contributed to school dropout of orphans and vulnerable children in Lamu County. Other critical issues that affect learning of children like harmful social and cultural norms and practices, lack/Inadequate access of sanitary towels by school going adolescent girls was not addressed. This and many other factors led to the formation and registration of Toto Centre Initiative in Lamu County.

Main area of operation of the CBO is Lamu West Sub-County specifically targeting primary schools in Mpeketoni and Witu divisions. Toto Centre Initiative uses school community model as a strategy to engage community members (parents), school board of management (BOMs) and local leaders for effective ownership and holistic addressing of needs affecting education of children at school level.

## **2. Background;**

The 2006 National draft on ASAL categorize Lamu County as one of the Arid and Semi-Arid (ASAL) counties in Kenya where access to quality education is still a challenge to many children especially girls. Enrolling and completing school is out of reach for the girl child in particular because of the high levels of poverty, child marriage, lack of adequate sanitation facilities, socio-cultural conceptions of gender and education for girls.

In Kenya, one in every ten girls often miss four days of school a month due to lack of access to feminine hygiene products. Menstruation products such as tampons and pads are not only easily available but where they are available, they are too expensive for women and girls or families who are already making sacrifices to send their girls to school (UNICEF, 2005).

Government of Kenya through the Basic Education Amendment Act of 2017 has been implementing a national sanitary towel programme targeting vulnerable girls in the public schools in Kenya.

Some of the experiences from this programme is that sanitary towels provided by the government have never been enough and not reaching the target beneficiaries. Also, delay in procurement and logistical processes of the programme has caused many girls to stay many months without access to sanitary towels. This has led many vulnerable adolescent girls to consistently miss classes during their menstruation period, loose interest of school and eventually drop out of school.

It is a widespread but unacknowledged problem that menstruation and lack of sanitary products is a barrier to girls' schooling. Studies have established that many girls in developing countries, especially those of Africa miss school and stay at home because of menstruation. Regular absences from school often leads to gender imbalances with the male students attending up to 15% more classes than the female students and rising higher in the class rankings (Chebii, 2008). The gender disparity and routine absences of girls from not attending school during menstruation leads to cultural implications of early marriage where society perceives it as a stage for a woman's development.

According to Sifuna (2005), religious and traditional norms dictate that marriage occurs shortly after, puberty, especially for girls. Many girls from the ASAL communities of 10-13 years are traditionally forced to marriage where parents, guardians and close relatives choose their girls to marry early for two major reasons of;

- i. Enabling family get dowry or bride prices and family gets relieved from the economic burden of supporting the girl since she is joining her husband's family upon marriage.
- ii. Protecting their girls from the dangers of sexual abuse and especially getting pregnant before marriage.

## **3. Rationale/Problem Justification;**

In many areas of Lamu County especially in Witu and Mpeketoni divisions, opportunities to access quality education for many girls are limited and in many communities, support of girls' education is very low when compared to boys. A large number of girls are out of school and for those in school, they are at a higher risk of dropping out before completing their primary education.

Despite the Free Primary Education (FPE) Policy of 2003 in Kenya, primary research findings by National Council for Population and Development "*Kenya National Adolescents And Youth Survey, 2015*"; Uwezo East Africa "*Learning Assessment Survey in Kenya, 2013*" and by Aga Khan Foundation "*Bringing Out of School Children to school project in Lamu 2017-2019*" have shown that many girls in Lamu County are dropping out of primary school because of;

- i. Harmful Socio-cultural beliefs, illiteracy and ignorance by some communities as they do not consider education important to their girls as compared to early marriage, farming, livestock keeping and attending to domestic duties.
- ii. Lack/Inadequate access to menstrual hygiene kits like Sanitary towels by many school going adolescent girls because of poverty.
- iii. High divorce rates and single parenting cases by many parents causing psycho-social and economic burden to children.
- iv. High poverty levels in many families that is forcing many girls to cheap labor like domestic workers, farm laborers, child prostitution leading to child pregnancies and early marriage.

As a Community Based Organization, our various engagements with schools, parents, local organizations and government officials have noted with concern that one of the major causes of daily absences or of dropping out of school entirely by many girls is the lack of sanitary towels to support them during their menstrual cycle. This forces many of them to stay back home so as to avoid harassment and shame from their fellow peers in school. Continuously missing school every month produce in many of them a lack of interest in education, and if they drop out of school they are often exposed to various forms of harassment and abuse including defilement and forced early marriage and contributes to the high rate of teenage pregnancy in the county.

Various media institutions in Kenya have also continued to highlight challenges affecting girls' education in Lamu County. Below is a recent publication by Daily Nation Newspaper (<https://www.nation.co.ke/>) on 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2019 showing the high rise of teenage pregnancies in Mpeketoni and Witu divisions;



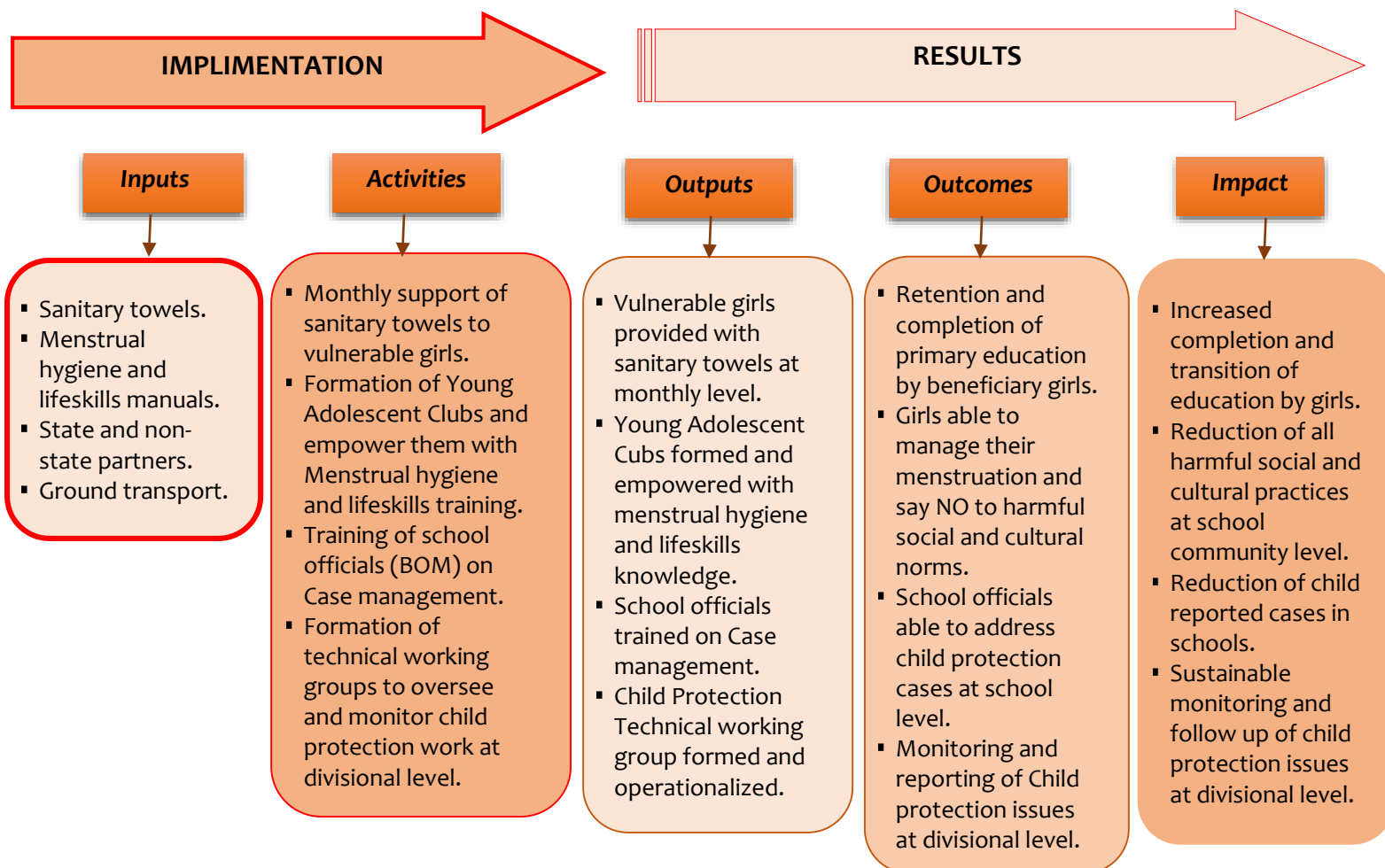
#### 4. The Proposed Strategy;

A multi-sectoral strategy is an approach adopted by Toto Centre Initiative where the CBO believes by working directly with children, school officials (BOMs), relevant officials from county and national government, community members and likeminded organizations will help to sustainably eliminate the existing socio-cultural norms and practices that exposes school going girls to early marriage, child labor and sexual abuse in Mpeketoni and Witu in Lamu County.

To ensure continuous enrollment, retention and completion of primary school education by girls, Toto Centre Initiative will establish partnership with local organizations to ensure provision of sanitary towels that will be used a tool to empower young adolescent girls to understand their rights especially their right to education and protection from abuse and neglect. Support of sanitary towels will also be complimented with Menstrual Hygiene and Lifeskills knowledge to the targeted beneficiary girls. This will enable them to have self-awareness and positively overcome various negative peer pressure and family and harmful community practices that exposes them various forms of violence, neglect and discrimination.

#### 4.1. Project Goals and Activities;

- i. **Project Goal:** Reduced rate of school absenteeism and dropout, defilement and teenage pregnancy cases targeting at least 500 girls in 10 selected primary schools in Witu and Mpeketoni divisions.
- ii. **Proposed Activities:** In order to realize the above goal, Toto Centre Initiative will utilize its already existing partnership with Ministry of Education, State Department of Children Services, Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National government and Community structures to;
  - Conduct an initial assessment to map and identify 10 mostly affected primary schools in Mpeketoni and Witu divisions of Lamu West sub-county. The selected schools will form the target project schools in the division.
  - Provide sanitary towels to at least 500 vulnerable girls (50 per school) who are at risk of dropout due to lack of sanitary support in the selected 10 project schools.
  - Formation of Young Adolescent Clubs in schools empowering them with menstrual hygiene and life skills knowledge.
  - Strengthen capacity of teachers and school officials (BOM) on Case management specifically in child protection and in addressing other socio-cultural norms affecting learning of adolescent girls in the county.
  - Formation of technical working groups comprised of state and non-state actors to spearhead child protection programmes and policy issues at divisional level
- iii. **Results framework:** Below is our result framework to guide implementation of project activities;



## 5. Proposed Workplan:

	Activity	Output	Expected Outcome/Result	Team/Person Incharge	Resources Needed	Timeline			
						2020			
						Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
1.	<b>Conduct Initial Assessment to map and identify a total of 10 mostly affected primary schools in Witu and Mpeketoni divisions of Lamu West sub-county.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 primary schools selected for the project.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduced vulnerability in the 20 selected primary schools in the county</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toto Center Initiative</li> <li>Ministry of Education</li> <li>State depart. of Children Services</li> <li>Ministry of Interior and Coordination of national government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Transport to schools and education offices to access secondary data</li> </ul>				
2.	<b>Provide sanitary towels to at least 500 vulnerable girls who are in the risk of dropout due to lack of sanitary support in the selected 20 project schools.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 vulnerable girls identified and supported with sanitary towels</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Retention and completion of primary education by at least 500 girls.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toto Centre Initiative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sanitary towels to keep 500 girls in a school.</li> <li>Transport to support distribution of sanitary towels at school level.</li> </ul>				
3.	<b>Provide menstrual hygiene knowledge and life skills training to the 500 beneficiary girls in the 10 selected primary schools in Lamu County.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>500 vulnerable girls empowered with menstrual hygiene and life skills training</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>At least 500 girls able to manage their menstruation and positively counter day to day life challenges.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toto Centre Initiative</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and Communication materials.</li> <li>Stationery for illustrations</li> </ul>				
4.	<b>Strengthen school board of management committees (BOM) on case management specifically in child protection and in addressing other socio-cultural norms affecting education of adolescent girls in the county.</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>10 school committees strengthened to address child protection and other harmful socio-cultural issues at school level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reduction of child related cases resulted by harmful socio-cultural issues at school level in the 5 project schools.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toto Centre Initiative</li> <li>State depart. of Children Services</li> <li>Ministry of Education</li> <li>World Vision (Hindi ADP)</li> <li>Kenya Alliance for the Advancement of Child Rights</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and Communication materials.</li> <li>Stationery for illustrations</li> <li>Transport to facilitate training at school level</li> </ul>				
5.	<b>Formation of technical working groups to oversee and monitor child protection work at divisional level</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One technical working group formed in Witu and Mpeketoni division Lamu West Sub-County</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monitoring and reporting of Child protection issues at divisional level</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Toto Centre Initiative</li> <li>State depart. of Children Services</li> <li>Ministry of Education</li> <li>Ministry of Interior and Coordination of national government</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Information and Communication materials</li> <li>Transport to facilitate technical working group meetings</li> </ul>				



## 6. Proposed Project Budget:

Item required	No. required	Unit Cost per Item	Freq.	Total (KES/US\$)	Notes/Comments
<i>i. Sanitary towels to Vulnerable girls in 10 primary schools (50 girls per school)</i>	50 Pads per school	90	12 months	540,000 (US\$ 5400)	This targets to support at least 50 vulnerable girls per school for a pilot period of 1 year. Our supplier for the sanitary towels will also provide free Menstrual hygiene manuals and lifeskills training materials.
<i>ii. Formation and Training of Young Adolescent Clubs on Menstrual hygiene and Lifeskills at school level</i>	10	5000	1	50,000 (US\$ 500)	This will support printing of information, education and communication (IEC) materials, stationeries and refreshments for the newly established clubs
<i>iii. Training of Teachers and School Officials on Case Management</i>	10	10000	1	100,000 (US\$ 1000)	One training per school to enable teachers and school officials effectively manage the day to day child protection cases reported to schools
<i>iv. Formation of technical working groups to spearhead child protection programmes and policy issues at divisional level</i>	1	50000	1	50,000 (US\$ 500)	There will be one technical working groups formed to Monitor and report Child protection issues at divisional level
<i>v. Mobilization, Ground transport and Communication to schools and stakeholders</i>	1	8000	12 months	96,000 (US\$ 960)	The transport will support the team in distribution of sanitary towels to schools same time conducting mobilization and communication for advocacy purposes.
<b>Total Amount Requested</b>				<b>Kes. 836,000 (US\$8,360)</b>	

## 7. Project Monitoring and Evaluation:

Toto Centre Initiative will undertake continuous monitoring and evaluation to ensure smooth running of activities in all the target schools. This will include impromptu visits to assess levels of implementation and the quality of facilitation. The field visits will also be used to correct and assist any gaps in the implementation of activities at school level. Specifically, activity reports will be prepared to include;

- i. Date of the activity
- ii. Participants of the activities, (breakdown of male/female and age)
- iii. Key issues discussed and the agreed action points
- iv. Success and challenges during the activity
- v. Emerging issues, lessons learnt and best practices, and
- vi. Follow up actions/recommendations.

## 8. Sustainability of the project:

This initiative shall largely depend on the availability and continuous support and provision of sanitary towels by well-wishers. To ensure efficiency and sustainable provision of sanitary towels and other logistics, Toto Centre Initiative will apply the following strategies;

- i. Ensure full involvement of school management committees, teachers, community leaders and parents in all level of the project to secure project ownership.
- ii. Strengthen partnership with local, national and international organizations in providing sanitary towels to the target vulnerable girls.
- iii. Engage Department of Gender Affairs to follow up and strengthen the government sanitary programme to all the target

## 9. Local experience and community relations of Toto Centre Initiative in Lamu County:

Since registration of the CBO on 15<sup>th</sup> May, 2019, Toto Centre Initiative has established a network of partnership with county and national government, schools, organizations and community members in addressing various issues affecting education of boys and girls in the county.

To date, the CBO has achieved the following;

Activity	Date	Involvement with Key Institutions
<i>i. Planning and coordination to ensure successful celebration of Day of the African Child in Lamu County.</i>	June, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Department of Children Services</li> <li>- Ministry of Education</li> <li>- Department of Social Development</li> <li>- World Vision Kenya</li> <li>- Anidan Kenya</li> <li>- Lamu County Government</li> <li>- Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government</li> <li>- Mentors for True Change Organization</li> </ul>
<i>ii. Invited to Observe Election of 2019 Student Council of Lamu County Primary Schools.</i>	July, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Education</li> <li>- Department of Children Services</li> <li>- Teachers Service Commission</li> <li>- World Vision Kenya</li> </ul>
<i>iii. Supported Lake Kenya Primary School to celebrate Prize Giving Day ceremony in Mpeketoni division.</i>	July, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Education</li> <li>- Teachers Service Commission</li> </ul>
<i>iv. Provided Sanitary towels and menstrual Hygiene Knowledge to 114 disadvantaged girls from Koreni and Bahati Njema primary schools in Mpeketoni division</i>	August, 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ministry of Education</li> <li>- Department of Children Services</li> <li>- Department of Social Development</li> <li>- Teachers Service Commission</li> <li>- Mentors for True Change Organization</li> </ul>



ANNEX1: CBO Registration Certificate:

		
Republic of Kenya		
MINISTRY OF EAST AFRICA COMMUNITY, LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION		
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT		
<b>Certificate of Registration of Community Based Organization (CBO)</b>		
<i>This is to Certify that</i>		
TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE		
CSD/HDM/LMU/C.B.O/VOL.V/094	Group Name / Project MPEKETONI	15 <sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2019
Registration No. CENTRAL	Division LAMU WEST	Date of Registration LAMU WEST
Sub-location / Ward MPEKETONI	Constituency	Sub County LAMU
Location	<b>is registered with the Department of Social Development Office as a Community Based Organization (CBO)</b>	County
Name T. O. ACHUODHO		Signature 
County / Sub County Social Development Officer 15 <sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2019		Date of Issue
<b>Note:</b> The Contents of this Certificate should not be erased, altered or defaced in any way.		
		

## ANNEX 2: Reference Letters from Government and Partner Organizations in Kenya

### MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

Telegrams ...  
Telephone: 042 – 4633166  
Cell Phone: 0720814473  
E-mail: cccslamu@gmail.com  
Ref No. CS /1/6/7



REPUBLIC OF KENYA

DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN'S SERVICES  
LAMU COUNTY CHILDREN'S OFFICE  
P.O. Box 106-80500  
LAMU

Date: 18 July, 2019

### TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN COMMENDATION LETTER

#### TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE ORGANIZATION

This is to confirm that TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE is a community based organization and is working closely with Lamu County Children's Office in addressing numerous issues of childcare and protection within Lamu County.

Despite being a newly registered organization, it was critical in planning, success and organizing marking of the Day of the African Child in June this year.

Apart from creating awareness on child rights and protection through such national children days, we trust and believe that the organization will be critical in advocating for the rights of children within Lamu County

I commend Toto Centre Initiative for the invaluable, tireless services and positive initiatives towards childcare and protection in Lamu County and highly recommend them for support and collaboration with other likeminded individuals/ well-wishers so as to enable the organization meet its noble objectives.

Sincerely

**MAXWELL .N. TITIMA**  
**COUNTY CHILDREN COORDINATOR**  
**LAMU COUNTY**





## **KENYA ALLIANCE FOR ADVANCEMENT OF CHILDREN**

### **Head Office**

Wendy Court, Hse No. 04, off David Osieli Rd, Westlands,  
P.O. Box 73637 - 00200, Nairobi Kenya.  
Tel: 254 20 4450256/7, Mobile: 0722-780224,  
Email: [kaacr@kaacr.com](mailto:kaacr@kaacr.com), [info@kaacr.com](mailto:info@kaacr.com).

### **Coast Region Office**

Tudor Estate, Mombasa,  
Off Lunga Lungu Road,  
Mobile: 0714 - 818527,  
website: [www.kaacr.com](http://www.kaacr.com).

### **Western Region Office**

Kisumu Kakamega Road,  
Off RIATT College Turn,  
P.O. Box 6853 - 40103,  
Tel: 254 20 - 2684450, Kisumu.

15<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## **TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN**

### **REFERENCE LETTER FOR TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE**

Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children (KAACR) is national umbrella body for NGO's cooperation and exchange of information on children rights in Kenya with a membership of over 250 children agencies in Kenya. KAACR, which was founded on the basis of the UNCRC, is a registered as an NGO under the NGO Coordination Act of 1990 in 1995. KAACR is an NGO with Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the UN (2000), Equivalence Determination Certification (2017) from NGOsource, Observer Status with African Committee of Experts on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (ACRWC) – (2018), member of Global Partnership of Children (2019) and member of ECPAT (2019). KAACR's mission is to advocate for and promote realization of rights and responsibilities of children and youth in Kenya.

We confirm that we know Toto Centre Initiative as the only indigenous community organization addressing child protection issues that have exposed children to various social-cultural harm in Lamu West (Mpeketoni and Witu) whose objectives are: Partner with relevant institutions to conduct research that informs current socio-cultural gaps/norms/beliefs affecting development of children in the county, Use data to design, implement and monitor child protection programs that will empower disadvantaged children to understand their rights for their holistic growth and development and to work with Children, Government officials (County and National), Community members, local leadership and likeminded organizations in developing child friendly by-laws and policies that will permanently address all forms of violence against children.

Due to her effectiveness, Toto Centre Initiative though a young, budding and focused CBO, is secretary to the active Lamu County Child Protection Network and is currently fully paid up member of Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children (KAACR).

We recommend them for assistance to enable them carry out their mandate through the above set objectives.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

**TIMOTHY EKESA**  
Executive Director

**Kenya Alliance for Advancement of Children (KAACR)**

## Kenya

Karen Road, Off Ngong Road  
P.O. Box 50816, 00200  
Nairobi, Kenya

tel. 254 20 3883652  
fax. 254 20 3883670

[www.wv africa.org](http://www.wv africa.org)

LAMU/GARISSA AREA PROGRAM

LAMU ADP

MOKOWE

17/07/2019

### **RE: TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE**

This is to confirm that Toto Centre Initiative (TCI) is a newly registered Child Centered Community Based Organization (CBO) in Mpeketoni, Lamu County, Kenya. The organization was founded in January 2019 and officially registered as a CBO by the Department of Social Development (registration number 48213) in Lamu.

The mission of the CBO is to promote Rights and Protection initiatives that sustainably address any harmful social-cultural norms and beliefs that affect welfare and development of Children in Lamu County. They have an approach is to work directly with Children, key departments from County and National government, Community members and likeminded organizations. World Vision Kenya Lamu ADP recently partnered with Toto center and the national government to conduct and hold the day of African child celebrations conducted at Mpeketoni and I personally was impressed with the professionalism and dedication the CBO members exhibited.

I am of the opinion that the CBO has got a good potential of working in the community to ensure that children children are protected and cared for and parents take up their responsibilities. The CBO is locally based thus has the ability to move to all corners of the vast county of Lamu.

I will not hesitate to recommend this CBO to any group that is willing to work with them in Lamu County.

Yours Sincerely

  
Emmanuel Mkoba  
AREA PROGRAMS MANAGER





MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL PROTECTION  
STATE DEPARTMENT FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION AND SENIOR CITIZENS' AFFAIRS

DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
LAMU COUNTY

Cell Phone:  
Email: [hasnmwachi23@gmail.com](mailto:hasnmwachi23@gmail.com)

County Social Development Office  
P.O. BOX 108 – 80500  
LAMU

When replying please quote reference & date

REF: SD/LM/CD/VOL. I/ 007

Date: 12<sup>th</sup> July 2019

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

RE: TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE – CBO


This is to certify **TOTO CENTRE INITIATIVE** is a Community Based Organization (CBO) registered by this Office on 15<sup>th</sup> May 2019 vide Certificate Registration No. CSD/HDM/LMU/CBO/VOL.V/094. The CBO has its main office at Mpeketoni Trading Centre and operates within Lamu West Sub County. Since its registration, the CBO has been very active, complies with the regulations and operational procedures of this Department.

The Organization targets and works closely with Orphans and Vulnerable Children who dropped out of school due to various reasons. The CBO's overall goal is to "Protect Children's Rights by sustainably addressing harmful socio – cultural practices that impact on the Welfare and Development of Children." In order to achieve the CBO's vision, mission and goal, the CBO actively and participatorily engages the Community through implementing

- i. Civic education on Children's Fundamental Rights
- ii. Mentorship/life skills support targeting young and adolescents youth in and out of school,
- iii. Awareness on Drugs & Subsistence Abuse among youths and adolescent children
- iv. Awareness on GBV and Violent Extremism among children in and out of school.
- v. Education support among adolescent girls and boys in school.

In order to achieve the CBO's mandate, the Organization has a strong networking mechanism that recognizes other relevant authorities and key agencies (State and Non – State Actors) among them is the Department for Children's Services. This is essential in prudent and efficient use of available resources, enhanced Community participation and stakeholder engagement to promote Children's Welfare and Development.

Therefore, the purpose of this letter is to affirm our knowledge on the CBO's existence since May 2019 and its operations to date. Hence, this Office has no objection and wish to recommend this organization for any support it may require as it toils to achieve its set objectives. Your kind consideration for any support will highly be appreciated

  
HASSAN O. MWACHIMAKO  
For: COUNTY COORDINATOR FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
LAMU COUNTY

COORDINATOR  
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT  
P.O. BOX 108, LAMU