

VV making a difference: TYTF

In October 2014 the ICA:UK Board approved a grant of £2,200 from the Village Volunteer funds for an impact assessment to be carried out for the Tujiendeze Youth Trust Fund (TYTF), a partner organisation in Kenya working with young people to provide them opportunities for further study in the field of community development. The final report was produced in early 2015. This article, drawn from a longer report by **John Cornwell**, Secretary of TYTF, outlines the components of TYTF's new strategic plan, developed in response to the assessment's findings.

In August 2015, following the completion of the Impact Assessment, ten members of TYTF met to develop a new strategic plan for the Trust Fund. The intent was to consider the findings of the report and to incorporate them into a clear direction for TYTF.



Participants demonstrating the way forward for TYTF during the strategic planning exercise

An analysis of the context led the group to conclude that “The challenge of higher education for the poor youth is real. Kenya still has to make her education available, accessible, acceptable but also adaptable. Education must not only be seen as a service but a right for every child, which at primary level should be free and compulsory: A right which should be accessible without discrimination. A right which most students cannot access because of inadequate infrastructure, lack of quality trained teachers and absence of a safe and non-violent

environment. The education must be of high quality and relevant in its content while schools must be accountable and transparent. Students must also be allowed to participate in its delivery.

In response to this the group identified four main areas for attention: Intensifying resource mobilization; Institutional strengthening through research, information, documentation and capacity building for increased effectiveness and efficiency in operations; Supporting youth in education; Partnerships and networking. Each of these area had strategic objectives attached, gearing the organisation towards improvement and expansion.



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