



# 2025

# IMPACT REPORT



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# Beyond the Table: A Year of Hearts and Hubs (Message from Leadership)

"2025 was the year we stopped just asking for a seat at the table and started building our own.

For the Organization of African Youth (OAY), the last twelve months haven't just been about projects; they've been about intersections. We found ourselves in the unique position of holding the heartbeat of the community in one hand and a policy brief in the other.

From the vibrant streets of Nairobi's informal settlements to the high-stakes silence of international boardrooms, our mission remained the same: to ensure youth aren't just the future, but the architects of the present.



**MICHAEL ASUDI  
COUNTRY COORDINATOR,  
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN YOUTH—KENYA**

Through the Sikiliza Sauti Yetu initiative, we saw the power of Artivism—where music and poetry became the language of climate justice. We bridged the gap between grassroots 'hustle' and global 'investment,' proving that a young person from a community-based organization in Kenya has as much to offer the world as any global expert.

In 2026, we aren't just moving forward; we are scaling up. We are turning voices into votes, ideas into green jobs, and advocacy into agency."



**SHEILA CHEPKERUI  
PROJECT LEAD,  
ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN YOUTH—KENYA**

## KEY ACHIEVEMENTS



**“We found ourselves holding the hearts of communities in our hands while sitting at policy tables.”**

1. Economic Justice Advocacy: OAY stood as a shield and a voice during the Finance Bill 2025 dialogues, fighting for policies that protect young entrepreneurs.
2. The Art of Advocacy: Through Artivism, we simplified complex climate science into music and poetry, making environmental justice a language everyone can speak.
3. Radical Inclusion: We moved beyond talk, intentionally centering young women and youth with disabilities in every room we occupied, from local hubs to global summits.

# PROJECT SPOTLIGHTS: SIKILIZA SAUTI YETU

## The Pulse of Grassroots Power

**The Challenge:** Youth in informal settlements are often the most affected by climate change but the least heard in policy discussions.

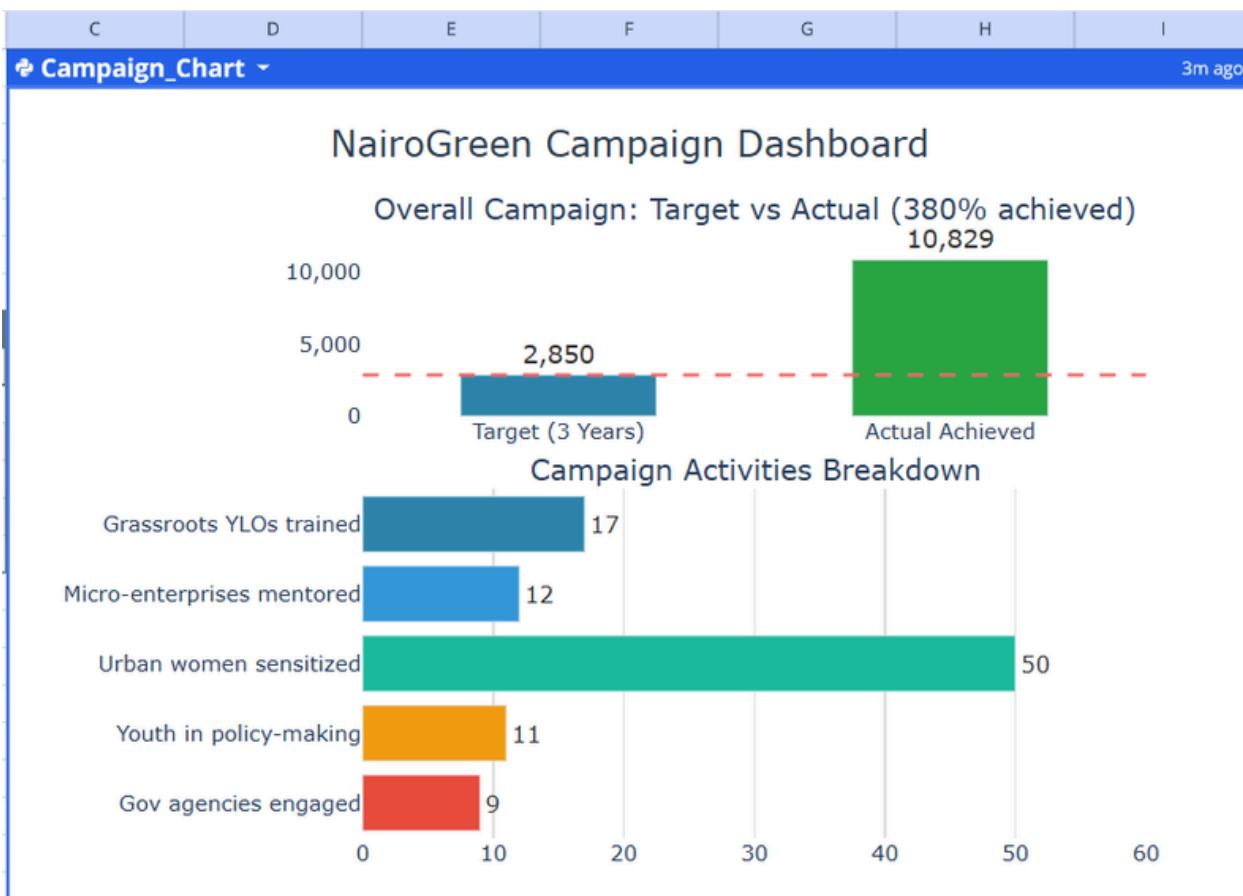
**The OAY Action:** We created a 'Knowledge Commons.' By bringing together groups like Ex-Mworoto CBO, we moved away from boring workshops and toward creative exchange. We used art to map out community challenges and policy briefs to solve them.

**The Win:** This wasn't just a project; it was a shift in power. Grassroots leaders who once felt isolated are now part of a coordinated network, sharing resources and speaking with one unified voice to national stakeholders.



**SIKILIZA SAUTI  
YETU:DUNIA  
INAITA**

# DATA ANALYSIS



- 10,829 community members, including young people and children, mobilized and engaged to raise awareness about environmental issues and promote sustainable practices in Nairobi through NairoGreen campaign. The projected targeted 2850 in 3 years.
- 17 Nairobi grassroots YLOs trained on waste management advocacy and leadership skills
- 12 Nairobi youth waste management micro-enterprises trained and mentored on green skills and entrepreneurship.
- 50 young urban women from CSOs in Nairobi's informal settlements were sensitized on waste management and environmentally sustainable best practices.
- 11 youth supported to directly take part in policy/decision-making on climate and youth employment
- 9 Government agencies are directly engaged on youth priorities on climate and green jobs.

## PARTNERSHIPS & REPRESENTATION

### Shaking the Room: Our Global-Local Alliance

#### **The Power of Proximity:**

We believe those closest to the problems are closest to the solutions. Our partnerships with the World Bank, Barnfonden, CRAWN Trust, and the European Union are built on mutual respect. We act as the bridge, ensuring global resources meet local brilliance.

#### **Presence to Power:**

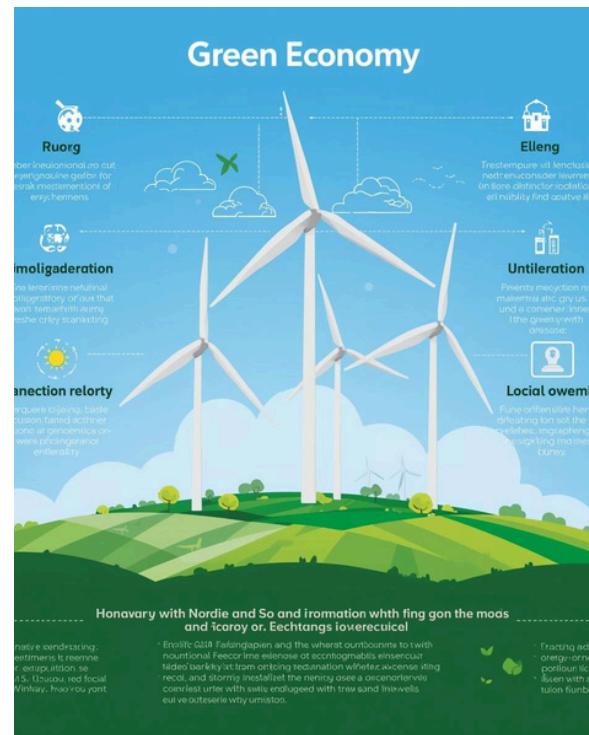
At the 2025 Devolution Conference and national forums, we challenged the status quo. Representation is more than a name on a guest list—it's about changing the conversation. We ensured that when leaders talk about "The Youth," they are talking with us, not about us.



# LOOKING AHEAD

## 2026: From Advocacy to Agency

- The Green Economy: We are turning climate awareness into climate careers, focusing on circular economy jobs and sustainable entrepreneurship.
- Digital Sovereignty: Equipping youth in marginalized spaces with the tech skills to compete in a global, low-carbon market.



- Health & Dignity: Expanding our reach in reproductive health and nutrition—because leadership requires a foundation of well-being.
- Civic Leadership: Training the next generation of governance leaders to take over the mantle of decision-making.

# ADVOCACY IN PICTORIAL





## THE CLOSING: THE CONVERSATION DOESN'T END HERE

To our partners and supporters: You are the wind in our sails. Your trust allowed us to take risks, break barriers, and amplify voices that the world usually ignores.  
Let's build 2026 together.

## OUR PARTNERS & DONORS



European  
Union



GLOBAL  
FINANCING  
FACILITY



# JOIN US IN 2026!

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