



PeaceNet - Kenya

POST ELECTIONS UPDATES

Stop Violence!
4th February 2008
Issue No 8



A Post Electoral Violence Response Initiative project, 2008

Introduction

Dear Partners,

The Elections Violence Response Initiative (EVRI - 1) was launched on 29th December 2007 at PeaceNet Secretariat in Nairobi by peace building partners to address the violence and wanton destruction of property that erupted after the announcement of the 2007 presidential, parliamentary and civic elections. This publication aims at informing partners of unfolding events and mobilizing stakeholders for interventions.

Interventions

- ◆ The Concerned Citizens for Peace (CCP) consultative meeting with the Provincial Commissioner on Wednesday 30th January 2008 culminated to a follow up meeting of EVRI members who met with Nairobi DC's on 1st February 2008 to concretize the efforts of the National Steering Committee on Peacebuilding and Conflict Management a (NSC) to form the Nairobi District Peace Committees. These committees will be all inclusive bringing onboard all stakeholders i.e. (youth, women, CSO's , administration police) and would be instrumental in preparing peace and security agenda within their jurisdictions; through mapping out hotspots, conflicts there in, actors and initiatives towards peace and reconciliation. **The Divisional Peace Committee representation for Nairobi West District is set to be established in Kibera, on Tuesday 5th Feb 2008.**
- ◆ A delegation from Voluntary Youth Philanthropist visited the violent torn Naivasha area on 31st January 2008 to talk to the youths who had barricaded roads and were terrorizing motorists and passengers using the highway en-route to various parts of western Kenya.

North Rift

- ◆ Trafficking of arms an issue of concern in the region. There is indication that some people have been caught by law enforcers ferrying arms from Uganda. The issue of Uganda disarmament at this time may result to arms spill over to the Kenyan side.
- ◆ Tegla Loroupe Foundation has been holding community dialogues targeting leaders to facilitate co-existence in West Pokot.
- ◆ Stakeholders Inter Agency consultations continue in Eldoret to address the situation on the ground. An Elders meeting was convened last week and brought community leaders to deliberate on peace and reconciliation.

Nairobi

- ◆ Tension in Kawangware and Kikuyu was high for the better part of last week and over the weekend following threats of members from some communities to leave the area. Contrary, Kibera which had experienced a lot of violence has remained quiet but reports indicate that residents are keenly following the proceedings of the Koffi Annan talks. However, Kibera's Laini Saba area still remain a no go zone for people from a certain community for fear of being attacked.
- ◆ A dialogue meeting for landlords was held on 2nd Feb 2008 and brought together thirty (30) landlords from Eastlands to deliberate on the crisis facing residents of the area. The way forward from the meeting was to continue with inter and intra community dialogues and as much as possible to have interface of tenants and landlords directly. Various other meetings have been scheduled between tenants and landlords.

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Nairobi



Nyanza

- ◆ Situation of IDPs stranded in Tigoni, Limuru and other parts of Kenya wanting to return to Nyanza and other parts of Western is becoming over whelming as basic necessities for IDP's deplete. The Peace Committee from the region has been assisting in ferrying returnees to safety areas.
- ◆ Schools in the region have not been fully operational as yet.

Coast

- ◆ Coast Peace Initiative held consultative dialogue meeting with 75 leaders on 25th January 2008 from different sectors to assess the impact of post elections violence that has been witnessed at the Coast so as to forge a way forward for peaceful reconciliation. Among issues deliberated included, testimonials from internally displaced persons, humanitarian and relief efforts by stakeholders, and sharing of experiences from affected areas.

Central

- ◆ Communities working in various areas within central province been threatened to vacate as a ripple effect of what happened in North and Central Rift.
- ◆ There are displaced persons from Rift Valley, Western and Nyanza who have been stranded in Nyeri, Thika Kiambu and other areas within Central Province. Kenya Red Cross and well wishers have continued to donate Relief supplies to the affected.
- ◆ A community dialogue meeting was held in Kinamba on 4th Feb 2008 to enhance co – existing amongst communities living in Laikipia. In attendance was the Laikipia District Officer. Three hundred community leaders attended the meeting.
- ◆ A fact finding mission to Nanyuki revealed a normalized situation following earlier reports indicating that leaflets had been circulated threatening some communities to leave the area. The delegation comprising of Regional Chair and Regional Coordinator paid a courtesy call to District Officer.

South Rift

- ◆ Reports indicate tension rising in some pockets of Trans mara in areas including but not limited to Pirar, Kelindon and Ambosi. A hundred and nine (109) houses have so far been razed down since tension erupted in January 2008.

Central Rift

- ◆ Tension was high in Naivasha towards end of last week as angry youth barricaded the Naivasha - Nakuru highway and terrorized motorists who were using the route. Buses belonging to Easy Coach were set ablaze resulting to losses of billions resulting to withdrawal of the buses from the route. As a result commuters had a hard time to source alternative means of transport.
- ◆ Score of people have been displaced within Naivasha and especially workers in the flower farms.
- ◆ An initiative dubbed 'pyramid for peace' involving the Voluntary Youth Philanthropist (VYP) has reached out "Mungiki", a militia group alleged to cause havoc and revenge missions. On 30th January, VYP held a meeting in Naivasha that addressed issues affecting the youth. Follow up meeting with leaders from the church and local head of police have been planned towards the end of the week. They also plan to meet leaders from other communities for dialogue.

EVRI forum has registered a website for purposes of sharing information and updates on Peace building and interventions.

Kindly send any information to: morten@peacenetkenya.org. For uploading

Visit the website at: www.peaceinkenya.net.

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